



## Original Correspondence.

## SPANISH REVISED TARIFF—REDUCTION IN COAL AND IRON.

SIR.—Most of your readers interested in the above matters are doubtless aware that a reduced scale of duties upon coal and iron imported into Spain came into operation on the 1st inst.; but as the details are, perhaps, not so well understood, I give the following, as a comparative statement, for their information:

	Late tariff.	Present tariff.	Reduction.
Cost .....	per ton £9 9 5½	£0 6 9	£9 2 8½
Pig-iron .....	1 14 6	0 15 9	0 18 9
Bar-iron .....	8 13 0	3 15 0	4 18 0
Hoops and sheets .....	8 18 6	5 12 6	3 6 0

From which it will be seen that the reduction upon pig and bar-iron is more than one-half. A considerable tax, however, is still retained, and English coal and bar-iron cannot be obtained even now at less than (say) from 40s. to 45s. per ton for the former, and 11s. to 12s. per ton for the latter. But if these figures are compared with the cost of production of iron in Spain, upon which fuel alone will amount to something like 8s. or 9s. per ton, upon the combined operations, after allowing for the reduction in the duty, the effect will be seen more palpably, and, from a national point of view, must be regarded as a step in the right direction; and, circumstanced as the makers of iron in Spain are in reference to fuel, such a measure on the part of their Government may be said to have a crushing influence upon them. In ordinary cases this would be the fact. It remains to be seen, however, how the consumers of iron in Spain are disposed to receive the boon offered them. A deep-rooted prejudice exists against the use of English iron in Spain, for which our own manufacturers have themselves to thank to some extent. My impression is that it will not be productive of such disastrous consequences to Spanish ironmasters as some persons would suppose. It has been their chief care to produce a quality of iron exactly suited to the wants of their own consumers, and the latter are so much in love with it as to exclude from their workshops any other kind, except, perhaps, in a very few special cases; hence their peculiar shrug of the shoulder, and frequent exclamation—"Et Hierro Inglesa, malo." Nevertheless, I perceive that the manufacturers in Spain are fully alive to the importance of the question, and, with a view to lessen the danger with which their interests are threatened, have appealed to their Government, if not to withdraw the measure, at all events, to modify it, so that its action shall fall upon them as gently as possible; and this appeal the Government has now under its consideration. Whether the prayer of the petitioners will be fully answered remains to be seen.

This relaxation of duties, however, is no doubt regarded by the people at large with a high degree of satisfaction, because it evinces on the part of their rulers a disposition to take up free-trade principles, in the development of which the various Governments in succession have hitherto been so very tardy, and however far they may ultimately carry this enlightened policy, thereby proving that they legislate for the masses, and not for the few, still, in reference to some branches of their trade, it must have a limit. Time was when the French and American ironmasters had to make a similar demonstration to their respective Governments; but with them the crisis has reached a certain point, competition has done its work, and they still remain where it left them. Not so with Spain, however; the situation of things there is altogether different. France and America each possess valuable coal mines, and although Spain, like other countries, may have its quantum of this necessary article, still the fact has to be ascertained—at present it does not exist to any extent in a workable shape, and until it is fully and largely developed, and the country well provided with roads for its transit, so long will the Spanish ironmaster be placed upon an unequal footing with other countries; and if the iron trade of Spain is to exist at all, if the increased wants of the country are to be met by the native manufacturer, and the latter are to keep their establishments afloat, it must be by means of protection afforded by the laws of the country, and thus it is that I look upon any measure which would have a tendency of closing the existing works as being extremely improbable.

E. T.

## MINES, MINING, AND MINERS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

SIR.—It is truly somewhat amusing to see the energetic manner in which several of your correspondents (in criticising Mr. Hunt's paper on Mines, Mining, and Miners) deny that they, and the mining community in general, require any further instruction or enlightenment than that which they possess at present; though, at the same time, the letters from some would appear to suggest that to the writers themselves at least a more intimate acquaintance with Lindley Murray, and a smattering of science, would not come very much amiss.

It is far from my intention to assert that miners do not practically understand their work, in the particular district to which they may have been accustomed, and that in those districts they may be able to judge of the results which will, probably, be caused by the intervention of cross-course, elvan dyke, or any other of the natural phenomena observed in their mines; but I think I am not far wrong in stating that our practical miners would be immensely aided in their researches for ore in their own districts, and still more so if removed to districts unknown to them, were they to allow themselves to be assisted and guided by the light of that science which they now so rudely sneer at and abuse.

Mr. Hunt is one of those pioneers in the path of scientific mining who has incessantly laboured, and not unsuccessfully, to bring to perfection the data which form the statistics of our mineral wealth; and it is with no small regret I find that the meed of praise which ought to have been tributed to him for his untiring exertions has been entirely merged and swallowed up in ill-natured and undeserved criticisms upon his last paper. Mr. Hunt, in his explanation forwarded to the *Mining Journal*, has ably and satisfactorily shown that he not only did not pretend to teach practical miners their duty at present, but wished instead, in a highly honourable and disinterested spirit, to assist them in collecting and recording data concerning the various mining phenomena which come under the notice of every intelligent miner, and thencefrom to form a general code of laws regulating the formation of lodes in the different metalliferous strata or veins of the earth, according to their respective location on the globe. By thus obtaining a mass of information from all the intelligent practical men, and condensing it into a compact tabular form, their sons and grandsons will ultimately become easily possessed of that knowledge which now takes us years of toilsome and costly experience to learn, and which, after all, must be limited to a local knowledge of the *very few districts* we can have had leisure thoroughly to examine.

Numerous instances might be adduced of the value of information collected in this manner from private sources; and I cannot mention one more to the point than the valuable summary and chart which Lieut. Maury, of the United States Navy, has formed, showing when and where we may expect certain currents and winds, at any point on the broad surface of the oceans, and the scientific mariner is now enabled by his instructions to steer clear away from the most violent hurricanes.

Some of your correspondents, who so indignantly refuse to be taught, should remember the saying of one of the *wisest men* who have lived in our land, that he felt he was as a little child picking up grains of sand on the shore of the ocean of knowledge. One of them has the ignorant vanity to give the precedence of discovering *spectrum* analysis to a Cornish miner, instead of Professor Bunsen; because, forsooth, he saw him burn some copper ore in the flame of a candle; he might as well have referred himself some centuries back to the *much despised Professors of Pyrotechnics*.

Stephenson and Armstrong, to whom Mr. J. Tonkin refers, did not disdain to be guided by the lamp of science, and the electric telegraph was invented and put in practice by one of the said *Professors*. Few will deny that mining has received many helps from science; witness, notably, the Davy lamp, blasting powder, and the electric spark for simultaneously exploding several holes; and in several mines on the Continent an apparatus is working unceasingly which shows the exact quantity of coal air or explosive gas in circulation in the mine. It would be difficult to estimate the enormous value of the coal which has been found by a due attention to the laws of geology, and the sums saved, which would, without geological aid, have been spent in fruitless search for coal where it could not exist. Lastly, I will mention the assistance furnished by a knowledge of geology to the sinkers of Artesian Wells.

It is not a century since a scientific gentleman informed the *practical Cornish miners* that they were throwing away some of their richest copper ores (the grey sulphides and the red oxide) upon the waste heap. We further find the Cornish miners at the present day submitting to have their ores sold by a system of valuation called assaying, which has long been known, and proved by scientific men, to be excessively inaccurate, and always acting against the miner. *Vide* Percy's "Metallurgy," pages 489

to 498, where it appears that the Cornish assay produced, on an average of 17 samples, 1·82 per cent. on the ore, or 8·72 per cent. on the copper-less copper than the ore truly contained. In some cases, indeed, we are told the loss amounts to 66 per cent. on the copper. See tables, pages 492 and 498.

I could mention a case where a practical miner drove a long adit, intending to cut a certain lode, and felt rather surprised to find the end of his level come out to grass, not very far from the point at which he had commenced, having described a figure like a horse-shoe. Of course, this gentleman would not condescend to use so scientific an instrument as a mining dial or theodolite. I do not make the above remarks inviolately, but only in the spirit of *fair play*, as it is evident a harsh construction has been put upon Mr. Hunt's observations, which he did not intend they should convey, and also because I am proud to be acquainted with many very intelligent and highly educated miners from Cornwall and other parts of England, who have no hesitation in availing themselves of the aid of science, and admit that our miners should be taught the reasons, as far as possible, why certain things are done, not confining their knowledge to reading, writing, and arithmetic. A miner without scientific and practical information derived from others, besides his own practice, resembles the soldier who knows how to load and fire his rifle, but does not take aim when he fires.

The writers of letters containing such invidious remarks as those from "A Working Miner" and "A Miner," on this subject, should have the courage to sign their names to them.

WILLIAM REAY, Jun.

*Bontddu, Dolgelly, Jan. 6.*

## MINES, MINING, AND MINERS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

## CRITIQUE ON PROF. HUNT'S LECTURE (continued).

SIR.—I quote Mr. Hunt: "From this period (the reign of Elizabeth) the progress of our mineral industries is tolerably well defined, and we may record a steady advance in the rate of production, until we find the value of our metals and minerals, exclusive of building stones and clays, to have been, in 1861, £4,602,853."—"In 1856, Mr. John Taylor stated before a Committee of the House of Commons that there were no greater facilities for ascertaining the productive character of a mine now than formerly." Whatever was said in 1856 is true in 1862, and it is a sad reflection that it is so. The miner, working in solitude in the dark recesses of the rocks, has become thoughtful, with only the dreams of ignorance on which to employ his thoughts. The next sentence, with regard to spirits—Kobolds, Knockers, and Gnomes—is too trifling and absurd to be quoted as a part of Mr. Hunt's "creed"; no one in the present century will credit that he honestly believes in such a state of things, and it, like much of the rest of this extraordinary lecture, seems written as a blind to the true character of our miners, and the value of our mines. I could quote much more of this to the miner insulting monologue—such as the Cornish miners expressing their doubts by a phrase "Where it is, there it is," to which he adds, "If these are not the apologetics of indolence and ignorance, they certainly are the utterances of despair." Mr. Hunt goes on to say, "It must be admitted that amongst the miners there is an entire absence of any method by which a knowledge may be obtained of the causes leading to the production of mineral deposits." Now, if all this were really true, as happily not one word of it is, on whom would the disgrace of such ignorance naturally fall? Certainly not on the mine agent or miner, who, engaged in an abstruse avocation, has not time to apply himself to those philosophical disquisitions and experiments that seem, unfortunately, to lead only in this instance to empirical egotism; but who, notwithstanding, contrives to obtain such a practical understanding of their business as to lead them right and successfully in their calling. I say, on whom should the disgrace fall? Here we have in London a Museum for receiving specimens of our mineral products, and machinery for collecting every fact connected with the science or statistics of mining; and we have men paid large salaries by Government for unclouding this pretended darkness, but they gaily go on to receive the salaries of the State, and blithely, if not gloatingly, dwell upon the ignorance it is their duty to dispel. But Mr. Hunt affords us no glimpse of light from the scientific regions that he has made his own: he seems rather, like the gods of old, to make merry at the mazy wanderings and aberrations of us poor mortal miners below. He does, indeed, for our instruction quote one Mr. Wallace, on the formation of metals in the veins, thus—"It is shown that the accumulation of lead ore in the veins is directly connected with the facilities which were offered by the fissures for the flow of water through them." Mr. Hunt then adds, on his own account, "This water—if we read our author-right—being atmospheric, and not as Werner and some others suppose, 'oceanic,' by this hypothesis derives its mineral matter from the rocks through which it penetrates, and that subsequently passing through the cracks, this is deposited in vein-matter against the sides or walls of the lode." Now, this might do pretty well for the limestone hills of Yorkshire and Derbyshire; but how will Mr. Wallace or Mr. Hunt apply this theory to the lodes in the Cornish mines, which are filled with metal for depths of 200 to 300 fms. under the level of the ocean? These gentlemen must certainly know enough of hydrostatics not to expect much flow of water, to use their own words, through the fissures of this set of rocks, surrounded as these rocks are on all sides, a few miles distant, by the waters of the Atlantic Ocean.

Mr. Hunt knows as well as I do that the laws relating to the deposition of the metals are so well understood, and their arrangement and order have been so much studied in Cornwall, that a host of miners, such as Captain Andrew Vivian, Capt. John Davey, Capt. Chenalls, the Messrs. Gundry, Mr. Williams, of Scorrier, Capt. Thomas Teague, Capt. J. Lyle, and the Capts. Thomas, by observing that the lodes are filled with ore opposite each other on the magnetic meridian, such as Basset, Penstrith, Buller, Copper Hill, East Basset, Carn Brea, Great South Tolgas, South Tolgas, Old Tolgas, Old Tolgas United, and Great North Tolgas, in the Redruth district. In the Camborne district, West Seton, South Seton, Camborne Vean, Wheal Harriet, South Condurrow, Wheal Grenville, Bollenow. In the Marazion district, Carn Perran, Wheal Charlotte, Old Wheal Neptune, Wheal Caroline, Owen Vean, Trewether Downs, Wheal Elizabeth, Treloewth, Wheal England, Lelant Consols, Wheal Margaret, Wheal Kitty, East Ruth, Wheal Speed, Providence. In the St. Just district, Lelant, St. Just United, and the range of mines running nearly north and south along the entire western coast. In Devonshire, Devon Great Consols, Hawkmoor, Bedford United, Gunnis Lake, South Bedford, Drake Walls, Wheal Arthur, Wheal Zion, Trelawny Consols, and Okel Tor. In fact, this order in the law of Nature regarding the deposit of the metals is so universal, and so easy to understand, that by making use of his common faculties in studying it, and by observing the nature of the gossans or outcrops of the lodes, which are usually made up of peroxide of iron, and the chromates of the metal contained in the veins below, these old miners have guided themselves and the shareholders who supported them with the capital, almost without error or exception, into immense fortunes.

It was in this way that most of the fortunes of the Cornish families have been acquired. I can name agents who have opened from 12 to 15 mines in succession without making a single mistake in bringing each into a profitable state. If, then, the law of the formation of the metals is so well developed as to enable us to find the bodies of metal with almost unerring certainty, what is the use of these mystified statements as to our ignorance? It is quite true that the depth of these deposits has never yet been ascertained. Notwithstanding man, through his intelligence and power, has been enabled to construct machinery, and so to improve it as to keep pace with his necessities, and to follow down the masses of copper ore 300 fms. below the level of the ocean, he has not yet been able to ascertain the real depth to which they extend. This fact, although it shows the abundant supply of metal by a merciful Providence, I think does not in any way reflect upon the ignorance of man. I cannot imagine that there is anything in the nature or quality of the gossans on the tops of the lodes that will afford us the elements by which we may calculate the extent or amount of the bodies of metal below; *a priori*, if this were so I confess it would be well worth while to pursue our studies for the purpose of detecting these elements and weighing their properties, so as to arrive at such a desirable conclusion. There are many things hidden from the power of human scrutiny, such as the nature of the elements of the constituents of almost everything surrounding us, and the modes by which they are actuated in entering into the formation of things. This seems to be the secret of the Creator, not intended for finite knowledge; but we have to be thankful for such demonstration of phenomena in the mineral kingdom as leads us directly to such a quantity of metal as is required by the state of the world, and with great practical advantages to everybody interested.

To the miner, the agent, the shareholder in mines, the refiner, and the users of the metals—the earth's inhabitants in general—there is nothing that can be fairly said to the disadvantage of mining that may not be as freely urged to the disadvantage of any other branch of industry. It is an occupation evidently directly provided by Omnipotence for the human family

to exercise their intelligence, and to call forth their physical energies. It also pays as well as most other things—nay, better than many. The aggregate dividends paid in 1860, on a number of British mines, was £41,660, upon an outlay of £28,800, equal to 54 per cent. upon all the capital required to work them. Their aggregate dividends had been £4,964,164, nearly five millions; while their market value was £2,471,539, upon which the miners were paying £31,16s. per 100, as interest, or nearly 14 per cent. per annum. Now, to construct twenty British railways it took £249,658,030, the original shareholders contributing £24,260,957, and upon these contributions the holders in 1860 received 4½ per cent. In Devon Great Consols the 1s. share is now selling for 500s.; the West Seton 47s. 10s. share is selling for 260s.; the Basset 5s. 2s. 6d. share is selling for 75s.; the South Wheal Frances 18s. 18s. 9d. share is selling at 105s.; and so forth; while these railways are burdened with debts to the extent of £25,397,629, and they pay a miserable dividend of 4s. 10s. per 100. yearly; which is, in fact, not quite one-third of the 57 Cornish and Devon mines above alluded to. Taken collectively with these facts before us, allowing that there may be individual turpitude in dealing with this great accumulation of monetary security—allowing that there may be rigidity in the market, disreputable scheming with designing promoters to the unwary, and tricks with the agents and miners—allowing all this and much more, I cannot see sufficient grounds for the sweeping condemnation indulged in by Mr. Hunt. I think it may be better said of the miners what was said in a critique on the "Lives of the Stephensons," by Smiles, the other day in the *Daily Telegraph*—"These men were intellectual workers of rare strength and skill, and of splendid achievements; and their lives are evidence how large a proportion of intellectual problems have to be worked out by direct handling, and not through the medium of language." A truth which book-learned men are strangely unwilling to admit. And with reference to Mr. Stephenson's claim to the invention of the safety-lamp he adds—"That it can scarcely be believed that an invention so highly scientific should have been claimed by a person not even possessing a knowledge of chemistry."

A WORKING MINER.

## THE "SCIENCE" OF MINING AND GEOLOGICAL THEORIES.

SIR.—It is to be regretted Mr. Hunt did not give a clear definition of what he meant by the "science of mining" in his paper read at the Society of Arts. There appears to be a considerable misconception on the subject in the minds of the reading public. If he intended to advocate and substitute the teaching of the old igneous doctrine to working miners, instead of being guided, as heretofore, by their own ideas, or even if he wished to keep them "posted" in the ever-changing hypotheses of our modern geologists and professors, and be guided by them, and not by their own experience, they would, indeed, have to delve like moles in the dark, without rule or order, and legitimate mining would soon come to grief. It is quite evident that Dr. Collyer thinks there can be no other science to guide miners than that assumed by speculative geologists. His letter in the last Journal of the Society of Arts, on Mr. Hunt's paper, is a perfect specimen of the kind of knowledge acquired in the so-called Mining Schools. It is lamentable to reflect that so much valuable time and money should be wasted in listening to such strange and wild notions of the supposed fiery state and condition of our rocks and minerals, which, as Dr. Collyer truly states, make it hopeless to attempt establishing anything worthy of the name of science, and more especially as applied to mining. The idea that a crystalline compound is a proof of an igneous origin, when that compound is found to contain 20 per cent. of water chemically combined, is, to say the least of it, unwarrantable and diametrically in opposition to the facts and the senses. Happily our leading mining agents have a far better and more exact knowledge of the rocks and their contents than that indicated by geological writers, and have a safer principle to guide them in the selection of mining ground and its exploration than mere loose hypotheses. When a survey is made with a legitimate object of mining, the intelligent and prudent mine agent first examines the character, composition, and structure of the ground, and seeks for the ordinary superficial metalliferous indications, in the same manner as a mineralogist would investigate compounds of crystals, their various forms, and their contents. The science of mineralogy does not require us to enter into the question of the origin of matter; it is confined to the immediate productions, forms, and contents. A thorough practical man would not trouble himself as to how the granites, the gneiss, the slates, the porphyries of the crystalline series were originally formed, whether by fire, steam, or (as we were taught to believe, and actually see forming daily) from water. A miner that understands his business requires no theories to embellish his report; like that of a lecture prepared for the amusement of the uninitiated. No; he must deal with the actual facts and conditions, and draw his conclusions accordingly. He would carefully examine the composition of the rocks, their configuration, internal structure, the angles and magnetic bearing of the fissures and cross-courses, the intersection of foliations, &c., and form a judgment on these data of their merits for mining enterprise. Even in sedimentary beds we have almost infallible guides, founded on long experience. In the metalliferous limestone of North Wales the productive parts of the veins are confined to a bed under the black shale; and in the North of England all the lead-bearing beds and the unproductive beds are well known. We also know the conditions in which the sedimentary productive beds must be, and the bearings of the veins, &c., to favour the accumulations of large masses of ore.

When all these conditions are carefully considered, in connection with local peculiarities, I unhesitatingly maintain that we can arrive at a correct conclusion as to the merits or demerits of any given mineral ground in 10 cases out of 12, which is as near as can be expected in such a complicated subject. It may be asked that if this be true, how is it that so much capital is wasted in mining speculations; and why should miners be employed to seek for metals in rocks where they never find them in paying quantities? Miners, or at all events, those who know their business, and do not lend themselves to mere speculators, are not responsible for such proceedings; and if there be monied men willing, occasionally, to make trials in barren rocks from mere fancy, let them do so, as without such explorations we should be in want of the negative evidence to prove the truth and the value of the "science of mining." The readers of the *Mining Journal* are well aware that I have published my views on the "science of mining" upwards of 20 years ago, and subsequently, in a series of papers; and every day proves the truth of what I first promulgated, and I am happy to state that even geologists are now beginning to appreciate their truth and value.

The geological theories which we see propagated in every periodical by those who have been trained to such doctrines, have almost undermined the pillars of our faith, and have thereby nearly brought all things terrestrial into confusion—a complete chaos. The minds of students, and even some of our divines, have become, through such teachings, so bewildered and blinded to facts that they can no longer see the beautiful order and the harmonious law of Nature, and the sublime truths which have been revealed to us. Let us, then, endeavour to check the growth of these assumed and presumptuous notions, which have been lately spreading like rank weeds, contaminating the atmosphere with their misty and unhealthy emanations, which almost envelope and hide the sturdy trees of the world as well as the tree of knowledge, to the great injury of practical science and the well-being of the rising generation.

15, Clarendon-gardens, W., Jan. 6. EVAN HOPKINS, C.E., F.G.S.

## MINES, MINING, AND MINERS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

SIR

tures, rents, veins, or lodes were formed. It was not, however, until the deposit of this secondary rocks that these gigantic quartz veins were formed. The contractions at this period must have exerted enormous force on the interior molten mass, which caused the fissures, lodes, or veins to be filled with a heterogeneous mass, some in a native state—as gold, or alloyed with silver, platinum, iridium, palladium, &c. Most, however, have combined with sulphur as sulphides—as silver, lead, mercury, copper, and iron; others as silicates, carbonates, &c.

Mineral veins present no uniformity, sometimes for hundreds of yards from 20 to 50 feet in width—these suddenly contracting, so that the walls of the lode are in contact with each other. This may continue for any extent, for the direction of the lode may be lost altogether, or may as suddenly re-appear after cutting through “the horse,” as this contact is called by miners. It will be perceived that the deviation, size, and all other conditions appertaining to veins or lodes have been determined by mechanical force, consequent on the numerous catastrophes which have accompanied the earth's transition from the fluid to the solid state.

The splitting of the globe, subsequent to the first strata, has been in a different direction. This has caused the nonconformity between the two strata, and should this occur, the same deviation would exist. All veins may be divided into three classes—1. Those of purely igneous origin.—2. Those of a mixed igneous and aqueous.—3. Those purely aqueous. It is impossible for anyone who has practically attended to the working of a mine not to come to the conclusion that the substances which compose the lode were not forced up in the most heterogeneous manner. The sulphides of silver and lead, 100 or 1000 feet, then large deposits of native silver, then lead, or even gold, copper, antimony, bismuth, &c. How could sulphur have combined with metals like iron, copper, mercury, lead, antimony, &c., in the form in which it is plentifully formed in nature if it had not been the active agent to produce these sulphides?

We have examined many of the principal mines of Mexico, Chile, Peru, New Granada, &c., &c. One remarkable deposit of gold in the latter country was at Carson's—(N.C.) which is the highest point by some 3000 feet than the surrounding country, where about \$600,000. worth of gold was extracted in the space of about 50 feet of the quartz vein, which was about 15 to 18 feet in width. The lode below this “pocket” or “bunch” of gold was without a particle of the precious metal. In this case the deposition must have been purely igneous. On the contrary, in Mexico I saw a magnificent cluster of quartz crystals permeated and interlaced with threads of native silver. Here was the conjoint action of fire and water. In the case of the carbonates of zinc, lime, &c., there must have been the action of water.

From the foregoing remarks it must be evident no amount of scientific education could enable the miner to predict the character of a lode, or the value of a mineral deposit. If the structure of veins were regular, or their contents not of the most dissimilar character, then we might be able to arrive at correct data. As it is, we must be content to delve, and with that experience alone must we rest content. No doubt a scientific education will enhance the position of the miner, as it does all other vocations. Practice alone gives a certain knowledge, which is essential to success. No class of men—at least so far as my experience warrants me in forming a conclusion—are more abe than the English miners; each is an adept in his own particular specialty. The copper or tin miner of Cornwall will not be conversant with a coal mine, nor a collier with the indications of a rich deposit of lead. My desire has been to concentrate, in the most succinct form, ideas relative to the origin and formation of metallic veins. If I have failed to do so, my apology must be that the subject, from its very nature, is one which would require more space than you would be able to place at my disposal.

Beta House, Alpha Road, N.W. ROBERT H. COLLYER, M.D., F.C.S., &c. &c.

[The foregoing letter was forwarded by Dr. Collyer to the Journal of the Society of Arts: at the writer's request, we transfer it to our Journal, and which we the more readily do as its contents are referred to by Mr. Evan Hopkins in another column.]

#### SCIENTIFIC AID TO THE PRACTICAL MINER.

SIR,—Although no one for one moment supposes that in the management of mines theoretical information can compete with practical experience, it is satisfactory to find that the opinion is continually gaining ground that it is positively necessary to give the practical miner a certain amount of sound scientific instruction, to enable him to perform his duties with greater pleasure to himself and with increased satisfaction to his employers. It is the growing extension of these views that must ensure the permanent success of the Royal School of Mines, and which, at the same time, will give the capitalist more confidence, that in embarking in a mining enterprise he is not relying upon mere chance and guess-work to return him a profit. Capitalists may rely that in proportion as scientific knowledge increases amongst their mine captains and miners, so will their profits increase also; for, instead of having men who are so over-confident in the systems which have been in use for ages that nothing can induce them to abandon their prejudices, they will have those who are not only eager to adopt actual improvements, but whose education will enable them readily to discriminate between the worthless and the valuable novelties submitted to them.

Although in England a Royal School of Mines is a comparative novelty—scarcely 12 years having elapsed since it was instituted—the value of such institutions has long been proved on the Continent, and some of the most successful discoveries may be traced to the students in those schools. Until within the last few months our only reliable work on metallurgy was that of John Arthur Phillips, who enhanced the value of his practical experience by following a complete course of study in the Paris School of Mines, and a large number of the most approved machines in Cornwall are but modifications of inventions which have originally emanated from the German schools. Now, this fact is no discredit to the Cornish miner, because he has not until very recently had opportunities of studying scientific subjects; but, inasmuch as the invention of the machines may be attributed to the possession of scientific knowledge by their inventors, it may certainly be inferred that, with the aid of science, the Cornish miner might be placed as far above his present position as he at present considers himself to be above foreigners, under which term he includes all other than Cornishmen.

It will be satisfactory for your readers to learn that the Royal School of Mines is now in as satisfactory a condition as could be wished, and with such men in the professors' chairs as Ramsay for geology, Smyth for mining and mineralogy, Percy for metallurgy, Hofmann for chemistry, with Robt. Hunt and his assistants to procure and arrange authentic records, the student may rest assured that he will be taught how to think for himself rather than to rely upon the thoughts of others. With instruction of this character the English miner need not fear but that he will long continue to maintain the character he now enjoys.—Jan. 6. MENTOR.

#### EDMUND'S MAIN CATASTROPHE, BARNSLEY.

A FEW THOUGHTS AND SUGGESTIONS TO SIR G. GREY, HOME SECRETARY.

SIR,—Colliery accidents of late years have been so fearful and frequent, that after they are over, and beyond a few days of public excitement, they die away, like all other things of ordinary occurrence, and are only added to the long chapter of accidents flesh is heir to, and to which the mining population seem peculiarly fated,—the general opinion being that these sad calamities are unavoidable and unpreventable in the dark, dreary, unhealthy caverns below, where the poor fellows dig to secure to us our daily comforts, and while thus engaged so often meet their sad untimely fate. A picture so fraught with gloom and terror makes humanity, in its civilised exalted state, and especially in this age of science and achievements, stand agast with horror and utter bewilderment. And are these fearful catastrophes in coal mines unavoidable? Surely not. An ordinary chemist would say “I prove to us that gas in a coal mine, or anywhere else, might and could be so mixed with atmospheric air as to render it non-explosive, or in other words, might be so intermixed with admixture with air in mines as to make it impossible, in the event of an explosion, doing much serious damage. I know, in giving utterance to this idea, I may be called a theorist. My answer is—I speak as unto wise men; judge ye what I say.”

Vast amounts of money from time to time have been spent in parliamentary committees, to investigate and report upon the condition of the coal mines of this country. Such reports have been very elaborate, well considered, and highly interesting, containing, as they do, the opinions of nearly all the most eminent men in this country. They are my authority, and are before me; and all alike have agreed, and reported therein, upon the preventability of fearful colliery explosions. How, then, are fearful colliery explosions to be lessened and prevented? A most important and vital question truly; but a reply to it has often been given, both by the decisions of all parliamentary committees, and every practical man of science who understands the *modus operandi* of gases in coal mines. Here then, is the solemn, important answer. All alike say—*put plenty of air into and through a coal mine*. I am not going to argue the question as to its mode of creation; that would be only trifling with the question. It is sufficient to know that *air in almost any quantity* is attainable, either by furnace, fixed at the bottom of the upcast shaft, or by steam-jet or fans, if such be properly fixed and worked. It is, however, all important that such air, however produced, must not only be put into the pit, but properly sent through every part of a pit or mine. Falling this (mark), the great end of ventilation—efficient ventilation—will not, cannot, be answered. Yes, although the quantity of air was double that ever sent into a coal mine. The great secret of effective ventilation, so as to lessen and prevent fearful colliery explosions, is a knowledge to thoroughly distribute the air in every part of a mine, so as to render it impossible for the gas either to accumulate or explode; or if it should ignite, by a proper distribution of the air, as proposed, its fearfully destructive power would thereby be annihilated.

Sir George Grey well knows that so fully impressed have been the Government with this undeniably important fact in reference to the air, that the present Colliery Act provides, General Rule 1—“An adequate amount of ventilation shall be constantly produced in all coal mines, or collieries, and ironstone mines, to dilute and render harmless noxious gases, to such an extent that the working places of the pits and levels and workings of every such colliery and mine, and the travelling roads to and from such working places, shall under ordinary circumstances be in a fit state for working and passing therein.” We have twelve Inspectors of Mines, with a salary of \$600. per annum each, and travelling expenses, whose duties are to see that all mines are in a safe working condition for the poor collier; or, in other words, to see, according to the General Rule above quoted, that ventilation in mines shall be such as to render harmless noxious gases; and, further, the Inspector is specially ordered by the 16th and 17th sections of the said Act to enquire into the “mode of lighting or using lights in the same (colliery), and into all matters and things connected with or relating to the safety of the persons employed in and about the same.” And, by sec. 17, he (the Inspector) is again further to enquire into “any matter, thing, or practice” which he may judge dangerous and unsafe “in or connected with such mine or colliery.”

At the late melancholy explosion at Barnsley there is abundant evidence before the jury showing, Sir George, the awful irregularity in using lights in that dangerous mine, and yet the verdict of “Accidental Death” is recorded. Mr. Nobody, as usual, is to blame. A plain man, who understands practically something of coal mining, may be allowed to ask—“Who then the entombed miners of the consequences of such irregularities? When were they thus warned? And if they were not thus warned and cautioned, who

dare to say that no one is guilty of the blood of these poor men? Looking seriously at all the facts before the jury, can anyone wonder at Mr. Parker, one of the jurymen, dissenting from his brethren, and handing to the coroner a written protest, explaining his dissent from the verdict of “Accidental Death?” The question of giving a bonus of £1. as a stimulus to the miners for pushing on the works in this dangerous part of the mine cannot be true; but if such be the fact, under the circumstances, it will meet with universal reprobation by all men who fully understand the perils of mining life; and surely, notwithstanding the verdict already given of “Accidental Death,” by a divided jury, Sir George Grey will order another searching investigation to be made into all matters and things connected with this dire calamity, in order, and for the purpose, that justice may be done to all parties concerned, and such fearful accidents prevented in future. Sir George Grey is not the man to shut his eyes to facts such as these produced before the jury in this case; specially when it so clearly in evidence appears that efficient inspection, supervision, and management here *might have prevented this dire calamity*. It is a matter of grave moment, affecting alike the Government, colliery proprietors, colliery stewards, and the public, as to what ought to be done in future to render less frequent these overwhelming disasters in coal mines.

As knowledge is power, it seems to point us to a clear duty, which might have early and permanent good if at once adopted and attended to in the coal mines of this country, and to which I would beg Sir George Grey's attention. I would most respectfully suggest to him the propriety of ordering all the Inspectors to make monthly reports to the Home Secretary, setting forth to him the exact position of all the mines inspected, where situated, in what county, when inspected, the names of all pits and mines inspected, together with names of proprietors, so that by this method the Home Office might have a correct view of all mines actually inspected, and their real position revealed, as they should and ought to be; so that in every urgent case suitable advice might be given, in such a manner, and to such parties, that would be sure to have a salutary effect both upon Inspectors and colliery proprietors, and which would greatly tend, I doubt not, to prevent and lessen these fearful periodical slaughters in the coal mines of this country. I know, Sir George, that such monthly reports would necessarily entail a little extra labour; but what of that, when for a moment we consider that immortal man's eternal destiny is irreversibly fixed in a few brief moments by these sad and sudden events. The Inspectors' annual reports, and present mode of inspection, do not meet the case, or diminish these heart-rending calamities in mines; and surely anything that can be done should and will be done to save the mining population from total annihilation, and the country everywhere spared the continual sorrow occasioned by these crushing events. The Inspection Acts have been in operation more than 12 years, and yet, I believe, we have no positive record as to the actual extent coal mines have been *regularly* *interiorly* inspected in this country. I know that Mr. Ingham, M.P., moved for return in 1859, which are before me, of the number and the names of Inspectors of Coal Mines for England, Wales and Scotland, with their respective salaries, and the districts for which they act; also of the number of coal mines within such several districts, and of the visits of inspection in every district since the passing of the Act 19 and 20 Vic. cap. 108. These returns, however, are very defective, and do not give the separate number of mines personally interiorly inspected, neither do they state the number of coal mines within each Inspector's district that have never yet been once interiorly inspected by any Inspector.

THOMAS STEPHENSON.  
Rothwell, Leeds, Jan. 7.

#### RE-REGISTRATION OF PUBLIC COMPANIES.

SIR,—It may be useful to your correspondent, “Confused,” and others, if you will insert the following reply received from the Registrar of Joint-Stock Companies in November last.

J. H. ROBINSON.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Jan. 5.

“In reply to your letter, I beg to inform you that it is not necessary for a company, registered under the Act 19 and 20 Vict., c. 47, to re-register under the new Act; but any returns required to be made by such company under the 19 and 20 Vict., c. 47, must now be made under the Companies Act 1862.”

#### REDUCTION OF GOLD QUARTZ.

SIR,—Your correspondent, “Observer,” kindly, though anonymously, reviews and tries to correct my remarks in last week's Journal respecting the reduction of gold quartz: his conjectures, however, as to their being unnoticed by practical men, are unfounded, as abundant correspondence from practical men will testify. As regards the capabilities of stamps, I speak from observation and experience, not theory; they do crush, but do not pulverize. I do not assume, for I know perfectly well the contrary, that different classes of gold ores require the same kind of treatment: I referred to the crushing and amalgamation of gold quartz. Your correspondent, no doubt, believes all owners or shareholders in auriferous properties to be thoroughly practical, and capable of rejecting the wrong and carrying out the right method of treating gold ores; and so, quite superior to “aspiring patentees,” &c. Well, time has shown, and will show again.

The correspondence of the Journal so often abounds with energetic assertions that whatever is proposed as new was known, or had occurred, to some long ago, that things may be left as they are, so far as I am concerned; I merely wrote to draw attention to a process which has been fully and fairly tried, and found quite successful.

Mold, Jan. 5. THOS. L. COTTINGHAM.

#### GOLD MINING.—TREATMENT OF QUARTZ.

SIR,—The remarks of your correspondent, “Observer,” on Mr. Cottingham's letter, are in accordance with the opinions of all practical men. Mr. Cottingham, like many others, may still be under the impression that the obstacles in realising large returns of gold are not in the quality or the contents of the quartz, or the raw materials treated, but in the mode of extraction. Quartz is quartz, and mundic is mundic, and as quartz with mundic produces gold in California and Australia, and even in a few spots in Wales, why should not the same kind of substance produce gold everywhere? This is the argument employed by many, especially by those who do not understand the subject, and is, for good reason, encouraged and supported by reckless speculators. Hence the cause why the opinions of charlatans, and all impossible gold-extracting, gold-producing, and even gold-making machines, are in demand, and held up before the public, and carefully kept from actual test, until the dispossess of sets and the promoters of companies have made their market. Fortunately for Dolgelly, and the credit of English enterprise, one or two of the recent gold seeking companies have been formed for the legitimate object of making fair trials, under the superintendence of men who understand their business, and are well prepared to extract the gold the properties may contain, be that large or small. A LOOKER-ON.

ENGLAND AND AMERICA, FOR CAPITALISTS AND WORKMEN.

TO THE HON. H. GREENEY, EDITOR OF THE “TRIBUNE,” NEW YORK.

BY FAVOUR OF THE “MINING JOURNAL.”

SIR,—You may possibly recollect that I spent some time in your office the evening you were going to Rochester, previous to the election of Mr. Lincoln. The object of my visit was to impress you with the “idea” that there are coal and food districts in the southern of the Free States, and in the south and west, which could compete with England better with our tariff than New England can with that of Mr. Morrill; and I beg, as one desiring fair play to all nations and people, that you will copy this letter, however you, at the same time, may disclaim its import.

Fourteen years have passed since having waited in the office of Messrs. Phelps and Dodge near an hour, during which the latter gentleman held forth to a friend on the high prospects of a railway, and the “future” of New England as connected with it, when, tired of my “position,” I stepped up to his table, saying—“Mr. Dodge, I know nothing of politics, but have spent twenty years as partner, &c., of the Chairman of Ways and Means of Great Britain, and many a discussion had we on the ‘ways and means’ of making a nation prosperous, and I tell you there will be serious doings in the States if New England be ‘bolstered up’ as the site of their manufactures. She has not an item of the requisites, coal being the most essential.”

High-down language is out of place in such questions, and I shall use the most simple. It appears to me that the Americans take the wrong end in relying on tarif, rather than “economical production” of manufactures of all sorts: coal, next to water, being by far the greatest weight of requirements in dwellings or factories, it must always, as it has in England, point out the site for the latter. When this town (of 185,000 people) was a village, near Rotherham, it was, by its superior smiths' and cheap household coal, and the “wonderful” variety of “grit” in grindstones, close at hand, silently undermining the cutlery trade, and its branches of steel-making, &c., of the world. Shame to say, while the busy-bodies of the town are running their heads against any idea that will make a “sensation” or “exhibition” of their talents, there has been no movement against the exportation to all nations of grindstones. The United States, like the continent of Europe, may be said to have none, for, though the former obtains some for farm or common use from Ohio, the States are chiefly supplied by a British province—Nova Scotia. The amount of mischief done the cutlery trade of England is, I believe, a thousand times greater than that paid for those grindstones, for which the quarries are worked night and day, and, as inferior of any article is disposed of with the least possible cost of conveyance, or nearest home, the best are notoriously at this moment being sent abroad. As artificial stone has been long in use, artificial grindstones may be a “possibility,” as a set-off to the Reciprocity Treaty, which covers the export of these. But to return to New England. It is the vile treatment by truck shops, and other impositions, which disgust the men, and drive them back to England. There is scarcely a shop of a dozen men in Sheffield without one or more who have tried the States, and (with other points) found Yankees liable to work at anything they could manage, to “pick up” the trade, and the “Boss” to swear, in a year or two, as he drives away the foreigner, that such lad is the better workman. Of a score taken from Sheffield three months ago, several have returned already—the promise that their families should be got out, by the earnings of the men, before the stoppage of the cost of their own passage out, being broken; some of these returning to the expected two days' work weekly from the prompt 14, 17a weekly; finding, also, that 67 there makes only from \$1. to \$4. for a wife here, through the rate of exchange and expenses.

As to the advantages of a coal site. When “times” are at the worst, and “short of employ” brings the father's income down to mere bread for a family, his trust is that the children will earn the other desirables and indispensables; but what a drawback on this, where fuel is (as in New England usually in winter) from eight to ten times the price at Sheffield—where fuel, stove, and piping cost an average family in New England as bread in Old England. Brought from the centre of Pennsylvania, it must be so. But so wilfully blind, or confident, are the capitalists of the States, that it is only one of a thousand cases of the sort that Major Bravos, having failed at Boston and Danville (the best sites in the States for making bar-iron) could not capitalists to attempt it at Boston—the coal and pig-iron of the same (Pennsylvania) having to be taken to Boston, thereby nearly doubling the average cost of the two, and the bar-iron having to be taken to New York. This was, no doubt, done on the idea that Americans

“Know more of any trade by a hint.”

Thus that they have been brought up in “t.” Or, to use the words of Mr. Dodge—“The energy of a New England man is equal to anything.” I replied, in the words of the father of the first Napoleon, Maret, to a general who had said, after Waterloo, that the cavalry could not be replaced—“Sir, we take a horse and place a man on his back, and immediately have a body of cavalry.” This morning, for the first time, I see a line in the papers hinting at the instalment of President Davis, at Washington, and letting New England go. There is no other solution of the difficulties. Let the men of the factories and ports of New England spread over the States on such sites as suit their craft, and let every Nigger henceforth be “free born,” and fed to a certain age, as former y. It is only a handful of ironmasters, tanners, spinners, printers of cottons, &c., and their few hundred thousands of men, who desire high tariff in the States, excepting New England—a miserable corner as regards soil, space, and real property. To make England a prey of her is a “myth.” Canada will not have her, or any of her ways of business. I have held this doctrine fourteen years, and have addressed the leading statesmen of England respecting it, and I now trust, as the representative of coal amongst the newspapers of the world, the *Mining Journal* will not reject this. My letters from the States in the *Journal* of June, 1858, foretold the railway bubbles.—Bank-street, Sheffield.

T. BUTLER.

#### ROARING WATER MINE.

SIR,—In my last letter, a few weeks since I predicted, an early discovery in this mine. I am glad to see by last week's report from the captain that in the Orchard level, which, so far as my recollection serves me, is driven about 120 fms., a good discovery has been made, in which he says the prospects of this lode alone are most cheering; and I believe the results at a deeper level will be good and permanent; it promises to produce large quantities of copper ore. The lode is more than holding its size, and the copper of a stronger and more permanent character, composed of bell metal and peacock copper ore. This result is most encouraging for Irish mining, and for those of us who are most anxious to draw English capital into this part of Her Majesty's dominions it is highly satisfactory. Its effects will not be lost upon the English public, and the advantage to the new company must be to strengthen the confidence of the shareholders; and I have no doubt but future results will be equally gratifying as the mine continues to develop its resources. This part of the county of Cork is one of great promise, and in a few years, if capital and skill are brought to bear upon it with energy, will show results that will bear comparison with any of the mines in Cornwall or Devon, and will far eclipse any of the foreign spec

the standard of copper is unduly depressed. During the late heavy decline, the Alderley Mine felt the effects most severely; but still the quantity made up the defects—wise foresight, and a worthy spirit of not “killing the goose for the sake of the golden egg,” prevented the directory from availing themselves of the lead-produce to increase their dividends. This source of fresh productiveness and riches will be taken away in due time, so as to well repay the proprietary for their foresight and caution. Well would it be for many mines were these principles adopted and carried out. The Gourock Mine, though in sandstone, differs materially in the nature of its cupiferous deposit from that of Alderley. For some 10 to 20 ft. from the surface it is almost identical, except that it contains a large percentage of grey copper ore; this being a sulphuret, is not easily soluble in acid; but this upper series yields, as per assay (fire), by Messrs. Bath and Sons, Swansons, 2½ per cent.; by wet process it yields 1%. Beneath this bed the value of the copper strata gradually increases. It contains a strange mixture of sand, pebbles, and fossilised wood, together with semi-coal, very like lignite, partaking of something of the nature of decomposed jet, mixed with grey bell metal, and yellow and black copper ore. Beneath this, again, occurs a bed of attrited quartz pebbles, with sand, but the fossils are wanting. This portion yields an exceedingly rich grey sulphuret of copper, which can apparently be raised in any quantities. Sometime since Mr. Downe, as the best authority on such subjects, was commissioned to give advice on the subject; but up to yesterday I had not, neither do I think any of the shareholders had, information of his report, the manager at Gourock not vouchsafing to do so, or the committee being too supine or brow-beaten as not to know themselves. Mr. Downe, however, yesterday stated he considered the Gourock ore far richer than the Alderley, and that it could be extracted far more readily, and at considerably less cost: that, by crushing and washing the ore, or by dressing it in a round bubble, it could be brought up to 10 per cent., or more, and that by care the rest could be extracted with acid, similar to their process; that the ore must undergo the acid first, when the non-soluble could be readily rendered available; that he felt assured the Gourock could very soon be made remunerative, and would have no objection to make it so; that they had nothing like the grey ore in their mine, and that he had given all the information and suggestions, as desired. Why on earth they are not acted on, seeing there are some hundreds of tons of the soluble sort at surface, and some scores of tons of washable ores raised, I am at a loss to conceive. The committee are displaying a culpable neglect of duty, which I trust this paper, or a visit (I recommend the latter, when they may see Mr. Downe) will dispel.—GEORGE HENWOOD.

## Meetings of Mining Companies.

### EAST CARADON MINING COMPANY.

A general meeting of shareholders was held at the White Hart Hotel, Salisbury, on Wednesday—

Mr. ROBERT WALKER CHILDS in the chair.

Mr. C. R. NORTON (the purser) read the notice convening the meeting, and the minutes of the last were read and confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN said,—Gentlemen, I have, in the first place, to wish you all a happy new year; and in the next place to congratulate you upon the position and prospects of our East Caradon Mine. (Hear, hear.) I have great pleasure in informing you of what you will shortly hear from our excellent manager—that at no period in the progress of this mine has its prospects or its position been more favourable than at the present time. I must also congratulate you upon the fact that, under the considerable difficulties against which the working of this mine has had to contend during the past three months, our sales of ore have amounted to 10,314*t*.; and our costs, although increased by the necessity for the purchase of new pitwork, &c., which, of course, has added to the plant of the mine, have amounted to only 5032*t*.; the lords dues to 532*t*.; and the miscellaneous expenditure to 55*t*.; the total being 5597*t*. So that the actual net profit for the quarter has been 6710*t*. Indeed, it may be said that the net profit has amounted to 7000*t*. because in our cost-sheets we have charged a considerable sum for additional plant required for the pitwork connected with our new engine; but as that has added to our plant, it cannot be considered an unproductive outlay. I may fairly state, then, that the actual net profit of the mine during the past three months have amounted to 7000*t*. (Hear, hear.) This profit has been made under some difficulties on the part of the management, arising from the necessary alterations in the mine in connection with the new engine. Upon this occasion, gentlemen, you will permit me, perhaps, to exercise the Chairman's privilege of making a few remarks upon the general prospects of this now far-famed East Caradon Mine. I am a very old shareholder—in fact, your real Chairman (Mr. W. Fawcett) and myself are among the remaining members of the first committee of management. For the last ten years I have never ceased to give this mine my most unremitting care and attention, and, therefore, I speak with a knowledge of all the facts of the case. In the month of November last, an alteration had to be made in the pitwork in connection with our new engine. During that alteration it was necessary to stop the engine; but our excellent manager, bearing in mind the true interests of the shareholders, used every exertion to prevent such a circumstance diminishing the dividend, and by those exertions Capt. Seccombe has been enabled to continue the monthly sales of ore as hitherto, and to produce the satisfactory balance-sheet which will be this day presented to the shareholders. I feel it my duty to refer to Capt. Seccombe upon this occasion more prominently than I otherwise should do, because I regret to say that in certain quarters—not so deeply interested in the mine as we are—his conduct has been called in question, as well as his mode of management. Now, I wish to state emphatically, upon an experience of 10 years, that all such attacks are wholly unwarranted, for no man could have exerted himself more earnestly or energetically than has Capt. Seccombe. (Hear, hear.) I am sorry to be compelled to advert to personal matters, but I think it is very important that all who have an interest in this very valuable mine should know what are the real facts. Now, it has been stated in a periodical—*To the Mining and Smelting Magazine*—by an authority to whom I must confess I do not attach any weight, that the discovery of our rich caunter lode was a “happy accident.” Some gentleman was kind enough to send me, gratuitously, the circular which I hold in my hand, containing an extract from that periodical, or probably I never should have seen the paper, nor this circular. What we have to deal with are actual facts: we are not going into theories about “primitive” and “secondary” granite, because the South Caradon agents have effectually disposed of that question; but, as the depreciating statements contained in that paper have been put forward as facts, I cannot refrain from saying that, when public writers state things as facts, it is their duty to ascertain whether what they state is true or false, and the more especially when they reflect upon the most able, conscientious, and successful management of almost any in the county of Cornwall. (Hear, hear.) Now, the article extirpated from this periodical states that “East Caradon has been working for many years north without success.” What are the facts? In the year 1852, when the mine was first started, Capt. Seccombe, in the very first report that he presented to the adventurers, and in the very first paragraph of that report, states that “the adit level is being driven south, to cut one of our south lodes—the lode the South Caradon adventurers have erected a steam-engine upon—about 130 fathoms from our western boundary.” In the face of that statement, made in 1852, I should like to know what becomes of the statement that the cutting of the caunter lode was a “happy accident?” for operations were continued, without the intermission of a single day, down to the 54 fms. level, when we cut the lode. Every report from the mine referred to the progress of the adit level south, and its progress was watched by all who knew its importance with the greatest possible interest. In October, 1853, our agent reported that he was “nearing the lode,” and in 1854 we first cut it, and upon it we have been driving for two years; but between that and the next meeting Captain Seccombe, knowing the importance and value of this discovery, suggested that the opinion should be obtained of the principal agent of South Caradon. Accordingly, Capt. Oliver Trewren was requested to confer with Capt. Seccombe, and upon the receipt of his report, dated June, 1854, it was determined to suspend the great outlay that had been made in the northern part of the mine, and to prosecute the decisive point—that is, the ground between the shaft and the caunter lode. Now, I ask, what right has any person to state that this discovery was a “happy accident,” when facts show that it is the result of skill, ability, energy, and perseverance? (Hear, hear.) And we are told that “East Caradon has been working many years northward without success.” What are the facts? That the north part of the mine has not been sunk 1 fm. since 1854, two years after the mine was started. The committee were advised by Capt. Trewren not to prosecute too many objects at once, and, therefore, we determined to continue the development of the south part only, with the exception of driving a cross-cut north from the bottom of the shaft. We went on for two or three years until we cut the lode in the 35. Our agent told us there was no ore, but that the result was a matter of certainty. Many of the shareholders became faint-hearted, and proposed to wind-up the company. I and others, however, resisted, believing that we should be rewarded by the perseverance and efforts of our agent. In 1857, being a little nervous, although having implicit confidence in our agent, I obtained another opinion, and the agent I engaged—a person of authority—informing me that Capt. Seccombe was perfectly right, and that the discovery made must be prosecuted. When we cut the lode in the 35, Capt. Seccombe told us that the indications were promising, and that we must sink another 15 fms. We decided to go down that 15 fms., and in 1859 the lode was cut in the 50; the results are patent. I say it is due to Capt. Seccombe that these facts should be known. I confess that I have never, in the whole course of my experience, seen any man so deeply study the shareholders' interest, so resolutely determine to overcome difficulties, or who had displayed such ability and success. Therefore, it is nothing but due to Capt. Seccombe that he should receive our congratulations, and the tribute which we are about to make to him in recognition of his fidelity. (Hear, hear.) There are other points with reference to the management of the mine that have been brought before us, involving the whole success of this undertaking—one, in particular, was this very south shaft. Many urged that this should be an underlying instead of a perpendicular shaft; but Captain Seccombe contended that the sinking of the original perpendicular shaft would be the proper course to adopt, and the result has proved the correctness of his views. Had the opinions of others been followed we should have been involved in inextricable difficulties, for it is found that the new lodes are underlying north, and coming towards our shaft. That very fact alone has saved us thousands of pounds. I say it is monstrous that men, after having once, or perhaps twice, inspected a property, should take upon themselves to criticise matters that have occupied the attention of the agent for years. I should never have entered into these matters but from what has occurred since the last meeting. We all know that industrious and studious attempts have been made to depreciate our property: we have been told that granite is coming in the eastern end, which is destroying our ore and our prospects for the future. Being a large shareholder, I have been overwhelmed with all sorts of gratuitous communications expressing these views from gentlemen I do not even know; but all I fear is that shareholders have been thus induced to dispose of their interest. It is most important that shareholders should know the source of these gratuitous communications, and that Capt. Seccombe would at all times give any authoritative information that might be desired. I advert with satisfaction to the fact that Capt. Seccombe has never stated anything with regard to this mine that has not been fulfilled, and that every prediction he has made has been fully verified. (Hear, hear.) I have found amongst my papers a map which, I think, will give information that shareholders should possess, for it shows that the discovery in the adit level was made 200 fms. from our present workings, so that for the whole distance between the north and south shafts there is an unexplored region of 200 fms. Why, that is a mine of itself; all these lodes run through it, although they have never been seen. But we are told our mine is short, although our agent tells us we have nearly ½ mile of ground in length, which is intersected by about 14 lodes. This is a mine not merely of to-day or of tomorrow, but I hope and believe it will be a mine not only as long as you and I shall live, but during the lives of our children. (Hear, hear.) There are two special matters which will be introduced to your notice to-day—the first is with regard to the inspections of the mine, and the other has reference to the leases. When we first cut the ore, in 1859, the interest of the public was so much stimulated that it was found necessary to pass a resolution that the inspections should be limited to one day in the week, to prevent unnecessary interruption to the business of the mine. That resolution has been in operation from that period to the present time; but our agent will tell you that that does not effectively prevent the interruptions it was intended to do. We have only six working days in the week, and to take away the attention of their surface and underground agent from the business of the mine for one day out of six, in accompanying these inspectors, certainly does not tend to benefit the shareholders, who ever else may be benefited by it. Moreover, Capt. Seccombe gives a detailed report every week. Several friends have entrusted me with their proxies, and have requested me to

draw the attention of the meeting to this question, suggesting that the inspections should be limited to once a month. The next matter, the question of the new leases, is a much more agreeable question. It is now 11 years since our sett was first granted—I was one of the original grantees. For eight years the mine was very unprofitable indeed—in fact, it was called in Cornwall a “brooches-pocket mine.” Everything was going out and nothing coming in. We have three lords—one represented by trustees, one is our manager, and the other, Mr. Simmons, all of whom desire to recognise our energies in opening the mine for them, and to give us a prolonged term of occupancy. The rate of dues, when the sett was granted, was 1-15th, but the lords have now granted a new lease with a 1-12th dues, which is a very handsome concession. If we had been in other hands they would probably have demanded 1-12th; and if shareholders will take the trouble to calculate, they will find that the company will effect a very considerable saving. This concession is the more satisfactory, when we find that our agent estimates that there is upwards of 95,000*t*. worth of ore, which can be taken away at any moment—it is honourable on the part of the lords, and cannot fail to be beneficial to the adventurers; and I must say that Capt. Seccombe has exercised himself to the utmost to secure every fair and legitimate advantage. We have now the promise of a new lease upon the terms stated for 120*t*., which sum does not represent the difference coded in the lease. It is true South Caradon has had an extension of their lease without a premium, but one of the terms of the lease is, that the lord may demand 1-15th dues, and that mine, as I remember, is very much deeper. We shall have a new lease for the period of 21 years for the very small sum of 120*t*., divisible among three lords. In consequence of some of the leases being granted under powers of a will, the trustees cannot grant a longer period than 21 years, but we have the option, at the end of another year, to get an additional term of four years for rather less than 60*t*. I have lived long enough to see South Caradon a mine for 25 years, and I hope to see East Caradon last as long, and give as good results. In conclusion, I have much pleasure in informing you—although some learned gentlemen would have us believe that our samplings will soon be reduced—that our agent can assure you we are finding as much ore in one month as we are selling in two months, and that he considers with our present sales of ore that he is adding 2000*t*. to our reserves monthly. (Cheers.) With these observations, I will call upon the secretary to read the accounts.

A statement of accounts for the quarter was then read, as follows:—

Balance last audit .....	£2878 2 7
To sale of September ores, sold in October .....	3324 15 5
October ores, sold in November .....	3710 0 8
November ores, sold in December .....	3279 18 11 = £13,192 17 7
September cost .....	£997 15 3
October cost .....	857 17 8
November cost .....	1174 8 9
Messrs. West and Sons for new engine .....	1270 0 0
Subscription to Bodmin Land School .....	30 0 0
Contribution to testimonial to Capt. Seccombe .....	55 15 0
Stationery, printing, and stamps .....	22 1 3
Miscellaneous expenses .....	15 2 0
Amount of lords' dues for three months, on ore raised in Sept., Oct., and Nov. ....	532 4 11
Amount required to pay dividend of 1 <i>t</i> . per share, declared this day .....	6144 0 0 = 11,095 4 10
Leaving credit balance .....	£2,097 12 9

The following report was also read:—

Jas. 6.—William's shaft is sunk about 6 fms. below the 70; the shaftmen have for some time past been engaged in fixing larger pitwork, main rods, &c., requisite for the new engine, which, I am pleased to say, is a very good one, and works admirably.—Caunter Lode: This has been driven on west 8 fms., worth 45*t*. per fathom; and east 10 fms., worth 45*t*. per fathom. In the 60 east our progress has been very slow of late, owing to the lode being very wet and troublesome; the whole distance driven since the last meeting being but 3 fms. 2 ft. 6 in. I am pleased to say it is again improving, at present worth 20*t*. per fathom. The 50 east, as I anticipated in my last report, has very much improved, now worth full 55*t*. per fathom.—New Lode: We have recently intersected this lode in the 70, and in the eastern end it is worth full 30*t*. and west 30*t*. per fathom. The 60 east for some time past has been a very good lode, now worth from 30*t*. to 35*t*. per fathom. In the wince sinking below this level it is worth 35*t*. per fathom. As soon as these ends are sufficiently advanced we shall resume the driving of the 70 cross-cut south. Fawcett's lode, in the 60 east, is yielding saving work. In the 50 cross-cut north the ground in this direction has, of late, very much improved in character. Seccombe's shaft is sunk a little over 17 fms. below adit, and for the present suspended. As we cannot keep the water until the balance-bobs, flat and main rods, and pitwork are fixed to sink below this depth, we are using every exertion to accomplish this object. Since the last meeting I regret to have observed that every possible influence has been brought to bear to endeavour to induce legitimate holders to dispose of their shares, but I have much pleasure in saying that at no period has the mine ever looked so well as at present, or so likely to pay the shareholders good and continuous dividends.—JAMES SECCOMBE.

The CHAIRMAN, in answer to a question, stated that the mine was provided with three steam-engines, two pumping-engines, and a steam-whim, all of which had been paid for. Their power was now ample.

Capt. Seccombe said the old engine had been left on the mine, for that part of the mine had not been abandoned. There was a long cross-cut being driven to ascertain the nature of the lodes. He believed that every foot that was driven was productive of ore. With regard to the “primitive granite,” he might inform the meeting that when Mr. Salmon accompanied Capt. Thomas Jewell on his visit to this mine, both of them said that the stuff being produced from the cross-cut was “as pretty as could be seen.” That old engine was left on the cross-cut north, to test the lodes that had not yet been seen. The new engine was taking the work out of Williams's shaft, and a line of flat-rods was being laid from there to Seccombe shaft. When that shaft was cut down they would intersect half-a-dozen lodes. He had no doubt every lode, when found below adit, would prove productive.

The CHAIRMAN said the accounts showed that the committee could properly recommend a dividend of 1*t*. per share, after the payment of which there will be left an undivided profit upon the quarter's operations of 573*t*.

Mr. MUNDAY enquired if the 120*t*., included in the quarter's accounts, was the entire payment for the engine?—Capt. Seccombe replied that that amount completed the purchase of the engine; and it might be safely stated that 350*t*. or 400*t*. had during the month been expended upon new pitwork, &c.

Mr. H. FAWCETT, enquired whether the committee would not have been in a position to recommend a dividend of 25*t*. per share, had it not been for the additional outlay?

The CHAIRMAN said the shareholders saw the amount of outlay, and the cause of that outlay, and they must draw their own inferences. There was no doubt they had added to the plant, and that addition had been paid for.

Mr. PETER WATSON, seeing that the merchants' bills for November were increased from some 300*t*. or 400*t*., enquired whether the cost of the pitwork was charged in that month?—Capt. SECCOMBE stated that the pitwork charged in that month amounted to about 180*t*.

Mr. GEACH enquired what was the distance of the 50 east from the boundary?

Capt. SECCOMBE replied about 35 fathoms. He was quite prepared to state—and he challenged contradiction—that at no time had East Caradon looked better than at the present time. They were laying open two months' sales in one month's work.

Upon the proposition of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. W. FAWCETT, the accounts were passed and allowed; and upon the proposition of Mr. BROWNING, seconded by Mr. CUNNINGHAM, a dividend of 1*t*. per share from the profits of the quarter was declared.

Mr. PETER WATSON had understood Capt. Seccombe to say that he expected, when the other lodes where cut in the 50, that they would be equally as productive as the caunter.—Capt. SECCOMBE stated he said that those lodes would be productive.

Mr. PETER WATSON enquired what was the number of the lodes in the sett that had not yet been operated upon?—Capt. SECCOMBE replied that about thirteen had been seen, but that there were others known to exist in the sett which had not yet been seen.

For instance, there was the lode in the Caradon Vale, to work which a new engine had recently been erected upon that property; that was north of East Caradon engine-shaft, and they had laid open a lode, in the former working, of 100 fms. in length.

Mr. PETER WATSON had asked that question so that all shareholders might know that there were other lodes than the caunter.

Capt. SECCOMBE said he should be very glad to find any of those lodes as profitable as the caunter, for, instead of buying 150 fms. at 35*t*. per share, by way of supporting the price against the “bears,” he would then give 70*t*. to 100*t*. per share.

Mr. RICE enquired the price that was being paid for driving on the caunter lode?

Capt. SECCOMBE did not recollect, but they calculated upon driving about 4 fathoms per month.

Mr. LAVINGTON enquired the distance of the 60 end behind the 50?

Capt. SECCOMBE replied that the lode had improved to 120*t*. per fathom. It must be understood that although, according to the world-behind learned people, the mine “had been worked too fast,” there had not been sunk any sun-pump-whees in the mine. In the bottom of the 50 a single pick had not been put, and the 60 had not reached this “best deposit of one over met in the county.”

Mr. LAVINGTON enquired how far the 60 end, upon the new lode, was in advance of the 70 end?—Capt. SECCOMBE replied about 6 or 7 fathoms.

Capt. SECCOMBE, in answer to a question from Mr. GEACH, stated that the next level (the 80) upon the new lode would join the caunter. In driving a cross-cut the stratum had been proved to be everything that could be wished,

## TRUTH'S ECHOES, OR SAYINGS AND DOINGS IN MINING.

There has been a very considerable improvement in the Mining Share Market during the past week, and from the transactions completed, and the enquiry made for leading stocks, there is evidently an improved market in prospective. The class of shares dealt in, and sought for, are of that kind which a discriminating public would reasonably embark in for a permanent investment, and, from present appearances, likely to become highly lucrative. The changes which have taken place have not been of that violent character previously noticed, and the advances are apparently founded upon the merits of the respective mines, and in such cases it is generally found to be more consistent and settled. Several mines have had improvements reported, and advances have naturally followed; while in other cases shares have risen where there is no reason for the advance, consequently a decline must necessarily follow. WHEAL SETONS have been, and continue in, considerable demand, in consequence of the great improvements which are reported to have taken place; some fluctuations have occurred, but the shares well maintain their rise, and are likely to, from their scarcity. —WEST SETON & NEW SETON have also been in demand.—GREAT SOUTH TOLUOS.—SOUTH TOLUOS, GRAMBLER, AND ST. AUBYN, COOK'S KITCHEN, EAST BASKET, and a few others, have been sought for.—Business has been done in TINCROFT, EAST CARN BREA, STRAY PARK, CARROLL, WHEAL FRANCES, SOUTH FRANCES, &c., without any advance in price; whilst EAST GREENVILLE, WHEAL GREENVILLE, WHEAL UNION, WHEAL UMY, &c., have shown more firmness in the quotations given.

North Rosekars have been in great request, and numerous transactions followed at advanced rates.—NORTH TRESEKERY, NORTH CROFTY, and North Downs are rather firm, and largely dealt in.—HARRIETT has experienced a great rise, and it is stated that the mine has considerably improved, although the reports do not confirm the rumour.—EAST ROSEWARNE has improved, and that very considerably, and the prices very likely to be transferred from one to the other.—PENDEEN, SOUTH CROFTY, GREAT WHEAL FORTUNE, BASKET AND GRIFFLES, WHEAL GRIFFLES, and TOLVADEON have been largely sought for. Mines in the Caradon District have, as usual, been well supplied.—EAST CARADON continues in good demand, at advanced rates.—MARKE VALLEYS have been offered more freely.—LUDCOTT'S have been largely dealt in, but without any very material rise.—HERBOSFOOT are in request.—WEST CARADON, MARY ANN, and THRELAWNY have changed hands, and appear firmer.—CREBROS have experienced a rapid rise and as sudden a fall.—EAST RUSSELLS have been in request at advanced rates.—LADY BERTHA, SORSTRIDGE, &c., remain much the same as last week.

The quarterly meetings of EAST CARADON, MARKE VALLEY, WEST ROSE DOWN, and CARN CAMBorne were held at Salisbury on the 7th, the particulars of which will be found in the reports of meetings in this day's Journal.—EAST ROSEWARNE continues to look well in every point of operation, and improving in depth. The shaft is of the same value as last reported, and the 50 west is worth full 40/- per fm. There are other lodes which are looking remarkably well, and according to an inspection of yesterday greatly improved. The 115 tons sold yesterday (Thursday last) are reported 1104/-.

HARRIETT is looking well; the sale of ore for the month, on Thursday last, was 60 tons, leaving a good profit. LONG RAKE are also in request, at 15/- to 16/-; BILLINS, 16 to 17/-; HERBOSFOOT, 48 to 50/-; THRELAWNY, 17 to 17½/-; MARY ANN, 15 to 15½/-.

In Foreign Mines, SANTA BARBARAS have recovered to 7½% prem. At the final close of the market, NORTH ROSEKARS are 50½ to 60, and are likely to see a very high figure.

level has improved to 3 tons of rich ore per fathom; the 50 west on the same lode is worth 1 ton; shares are very scarce for delivery. EAST CARADON have been largely dealt in, closing at 45½ to 46½ ex div.; at the meeting held in Salisbury, on Wednesday, a dividend of 20s. per share was declared. The report was one of the most favourable ever received from the mine; the new lode at the 70 is worth 30/- per fm., east and west respectively; the 50 east on the caunter, 55/-; the 60 east, 20/-; the 70 east, 45/-; and west, 40/- per fathom. WHEAL SETONS have been eagerly bought up at 235 to 240; the course of ore in the winze, sinking under the 140 fm. level, is worth 25 tons per fathom. WEST BASKET, 13½ to 14; no material change has taken place in the workings of the mine. WHEAL UNYs are 7 to 7½. EAST GREENVILLES have risen from 50s. to 52s. 6d. WHEAL GREENVILLES from 5 to 5½. EAST BASKETS are required for at 54 to 55. SOUTH CARADON are 390 to 395. DEVON GREAT CONSOLS at 505 to 510, and in demand. MARKE VALLEYS are 8½ to 8½; the dividend at the meeting held in Salisbury was 2s. 6d. per share; the prospects are good, though the present profits are not large. WEST TOLUOS, 55 to 56; the mine is looking well.

In Tin Mines a large business has been done. COOK'S KITCHEN are at enhanced quotations, closing at 32 to 33; an improvement has taken place in the mine. TINCROFT, 13½ to 13½. HARRIETT have risen from 3½ to 3¾. WHEAL GRIFFLES is opening up well. EAST MARGARET is opening up well, and likely to enter the Dividend List this year; the mine is divided into 1024 shares, and can be had at a low figure. MARY DOWS is looking better. SITHNEY AND CARMELINE shares are again required for at 2½ to 3; there are important parts likely to come off favourably in the course of a few weeks in this mine. In Lead Mines, BRYN GWIOG have risen from 32 to 35; the lode in the 75 west is worth 2 tons per fathom; the lode in the shaft has also improved; the sale of ore for the month, on Thursday last, was 60 tons, leaving a good profit. LONG RAKE are also in request, at 15½ to 16½; BILLINS, 16 to 17/-; HERBOSFOOT, 48 to 50/-; THRELAWNY, 17 to 17½/-; MARY ANN, 15 to 15½/-.

In Foreign Mines, SANTA BARBARAS have recovered to 7½% prem. At the final close of the market, NORTH ROSEKARS are 50½ to 60, and are likely to see a very high figure.

## COPPER MINING IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

The following passages are taken from the *South Australian Advertiser* of Oct. 25.—

With respect to our mines, they are more than ever encouraging. We have elsewhere given particulars relative to the Burra, the Moonta, the mines of the Far North, and the very promising silver-lead mines of Cape Jervis. The mineral interest is outstripping all others in its rapid development. The Moonta, after repaying all disbursements, has declared a dividend of 10/- per share; and the other mines, on York's Peninsula, are also improving. In the North, the Nuccaleena (belonging to the Great Northern Mining Company) has much improved, and the mines of the Yudanamutana Mining Company in each successive report show an improvement. Smelting work are being erected at the Wheal Blinman, one of the company's mines. The North Rhine promises fair to repay the shareholders by profitable workings; and the older mines—the Burra and Kapunda—continue to keep their good name.

WHEAL BLINMAN, Oct. 11.—This mine, the property of the Yudanamutana Mining Company, and which has been worked but little more than three months, is yielding large quantities of copper ore of the richest quality. The lode has been traced nearly 10 fm. in depth, having a dip westward of about 15° from the perpendicular, or 18° in the fathom. The average width of the lode is 6 ft. of solid ore, consisting of a peculiar grey oxide, similar in appearance to very fine regulus. We should have judged the best of the ore to be worth 65 per cent. of copper, but are informed that it is considerably richer even than that. It is different in appearance from ordinary specimens, having a peculiar metallic lustre, and being like a combination of red oxide and grey ore. There are also specks of the finest yellow ore, called "semi-metal," interspersed through the lode; here and there beautiful and rare crystals of green and blue carbonate are also found.

One hundred and twenty tons of the richest ore have been sent to Port Augusta,

and above 100 tons of second-class ore, worth 35 per cent. of copper. About 300 tons of inferior ore, worth about 15 per cent., are also about to be dressed, preparatory to being reduced to regulus at the mine. No. 2 shaft is about 8 fms. south of No. 1, the same lode has been cut in this shaft, where it is from 8 to 10 ft. wide; the ore raised is of similar quality to that in the other shaft, and the quantity raised is about 100 tons of first and second quality, and 150 tons to be smelted. About 18 fms. further south No. 3 workings are going on, and at about 3 fms. below the surface, have produced 5 tons of the finest ore, and about 10 tons for smelting. About 10 fms. still farther south, on the same lode, a shaft has been sunk 4 fms., from which about 5 tons of second-quality ore have been raised, and a few tons have also to be reduced to regulus. About 20 fms. north of No. 1 shaft another shaft (No. 5) has been sunk 4 fms. through a good gossan lode, containing ore of first and second quality: 50 tons of ore of all qualities have been raised from this shaft, and 20 fms. further north No. 4 shaft is sunk to a depth of 10 fms. through a good ore-bearing lode, from 3 to 4 ft. wide. About 50 men and boys are employed on this mine. Wheal Blinman is pleasantly situated amongst low hills, about three miles from Angoriana, the station of Mr. H. C. Swan. At present there is good grass in the immediate neighbourhood, as indeed there is wherever grass grows in the North. We have to-day ridden over some fine grass country on Moonta. Chambers and Fluke's run, 10 miles from here, at Moolooloo, and there is splendid feed the greater part of the road all the way from Port Augusta—about 130 miles. A new road is about to be opened from this mine through the Brachina Creek, leading out to the Western Plains, and which will save a distance of 25 or 30 miles. The whole of the country in this neighbourhood is what miners call good "settled" country, and is well situated for feed and water, there being several fine springs within a few miles. A magnificent block of ore, weighing 2½ tons, and estimated to average throughout 40 per cent. of copper, has just arrived at Port Augusta from this mine. A well has been sunk to a depth of 20 fms. in the bed of the creek without reaching water, so that there is every prospect of the mine continuing dry to a depth of 40 fms. Several substantial buildings of pine have been erected on the mine, and a Post-Office is established here, through which about 40 letters per week are transmitted to Adelaide and other places.

Oct. 15.—In my last I gave a brief description of the Blinman Mines and I have not yet left them, having made this place my head-quarters for the past week, and where I am now waiting in hope of getting letters by the mail. I have been several miles round to inspect various mineral claims, with some of which I have been pleased, but with others, I must say, the feeling excited has been one of disgust. I do not wish to enlarge on these matters, or to particularise, and for some reasons it would, perhaps, be hardly fair that I should express an opinion on claims not yet brought before the public notice; but I do not think there was anything unfair for me in a private way, and on application, when I return to Adelaide, to give my opinion to such parties as may desire it, being interested in mineral claims in the North. There can be no doubt that as there is, very large mineral deposits in the North, but far too many places are, to use a colonial phrase, "cracked up" as rich mines, which neither are nor are ever likely to prove rich; if indeed, they are ever likely to become worthy of the name of mines at all. Persons in Adelaide should exercise the greatest caution before investing in claims, even though they may have seen some specimens of ore from the locality, and received a favourable report from a mining captain. I have seen claims which have been extolled as exceedingly rich and valuable, and a share in which has been estimated as worth some thousands sterling, and which when they came to be inspected presented no appearance of a lode, and only the most meagre stains of copper. In addition to these drawbacks, perhaps the place is in an almost inaccessible situation, unapproachable even on horseback, much more by drays, or may be miles from water. I confess I speak generally, and have no one particular claim in view while I thus write, and which combines in itself each and all of the objections I have named. As I said before there are, no doubt, large deposits of copper in the North, but none even of the real mines have yet been developed to any great depth. I believe the deepest shaft scarcely exceeds 20 fms., and this in Cornwall would be called mere surfacing. While on the one hand many persons are over sanguine if they see a stain of copper on the surface, on the other hand I think many are too easily discouraged if they do not at once find a rich mine by scratching to a depth of only a few feet. I should not be surprised if some mines, where several hundred or even thousands of pounds, have been expended, and which have since been abandoned, are again worked when mining is more extensively carried on in the North, and that ultimately they may turn out valuable mines. But in all legitimate mining operations the account should be laid with a large outlay, so as properly to prove the property, and if that were done the mineral resources of this colony would be better developed, and the country would derive that benefit from her mineral wealth which she ought to enjoy.

This very morning the great lode at the Blinman has been further exposed, and is a splendid sight. Masses of solid ore of 2 or 3 tons weight, and averaging throughout above 60 per cent. of copper, are laid bare. The ore is like rough copper which has been twice through the smelting-furnace. Besides this, there is rich green carbonate, red oxide, a little black ore, and fine gossan in the lode, and several hundred tons of ore are at sight. We start this morning (Wednesday, October 16) en route for Yudanamutana Mine, examining the Mount Rose, Apex-hill, and other mines on our way, and afterwards the Sir Dominick Daly, Welcome, and other mines, taking the Nuccaleena on our way back. I am very glad to learn that the lode of black ore at the Nuccaleena Mine, belonging to the Great Northern, and which was cut some three months or more since, has been again cut at a greater depth at the engine-shaft. I do not know the exact depth, but believe it to be above 14 fms. You can probably ascertain further particulars at the office. I will write again when I visit that mine, in about three weeks' time.

WORTING MINING COMPANY.—The Bremer Mine is going on as usual; the shaft has been resumed, the lode producing good stones of rich yellow ore. The quantity of ore raised and dressed during the month has not diminished, and drivings are going on southward to gain under the old working, where the largest quantity of ore was found, with every prospect of repetition; in fact, everything—machinery, dressing, and smelting—goes on so steadily that I have difficulty in framing a report for this month.

According to the present rate of dividends, the shares are worth more than 15/-.

The excitement caused by the large speculative dealings that are taking place in a few high-price mines just now, causes many very legitimate concerns to be almost entirely neglected, but this will only last for a season. In the mean time, it will be wise on the part of the public to take advantage of this period, and buy into a few good mines while the shares may be had at a comparatively low price. NEW SOUTH CARADON, although at present not much noticed, will before long attract more attention. Several lodes have been met with in clearing up the adit; and one of which, named No. 7 lode, is gradually improving. It should not be forgotten that this shaft contains the lodes of West and South Caradon, and may some day be an important concern, while the shares are now about 15s. each, and free from debt of any kind beyond the current cost, which is very slight, owing to there being no steam-power required, as there is ample water-power for all purposes. CARADON UNITED, although not exactly in the same district, is one of the best speculations in Cornwall, and the shares at present price are very cheap, when the extraordinary chances of success are considered. Price of the shares, 20s. paid, 1½ to 2.

P.S.—The actual profit for the past three months in LUDCOTT AND WHEY CONSOLS is 25717. 4s., besides a parcel of lead sold on the 7th, for which credit is not taken. There is not a lead mine in the county doing so well.

From Mr. EDWARD COOKE.—A very large amount of business has been done during the week, and a considerable advance taken place in the price of several mines, including NORTH ROSEKAR, WHEAL HARRIETT, EAST CARADON, EAST ROSEWARNE, WHEAL SETON, &c., and there are other mines that cannot fail to take a better position in the market are long, and among them will be found CARADON UNITED, EAST CHERTON, WORVAS DOWNS, EAST GRIFFLES, NEW SOUTH CARADON, CARADON CONSOLS, &c. The rise in WHEAL HARRIETT shares has been caused by the continued prosperity of the mine. The public cannot surely be aware of the fact that this mine will soon be in the Dividend List. Profits to the extent of 400/- or 500/- per month, according to the agent's own statement, will be made from the tin ground already discovered. When the shares are 50 to 60, they will probably be more sought after. AT CARADON CONSOLS a very important change has taken place in the shaft on the main lode; and, although the lode is not yet rich, it contains good stones of yellow ore, which is indicative of something very good in depth. This mine adjoins West Caradon, that has given such large profits; and, being in whole or virgin ground, renders it a speculation of no ordinary character. The price of the shares is now about 14 to 15. There are only 914 shares, and they are well held by parties in Liskeard, who look forward to its being some day equally as valuable as West and South Caradon; and in the event of a good course of ore being met with the price of the shares would go very high, and of this there are great probabilities. The sale of the LUDCOTT AND WHEY CONSOLS are likely to very much exceed the estimate formed, and will, probably, realise above 4500/-, or about 7000/- for the quarter. According to the present rate of dividends, the shares are worth more than 15/-.

The excitement caused by the large speculative dealings that are taking place in a few high-price mines just now, causes many very legitimate concerns to be almost entirely neglected, but this will only last for a season. In the mean time, it will be wise on the part of the public to take advantage of this period, and buy into a few good mines while the shares may be had at a comparatively low price. NEW SOUTH CARADON, although at present not much noticed, will before long attract more attention. Several lodes have been met with in clearing up the adit; and one of which, named No. 7 lode, is gradually improving. It should not be forgotten that this shaft contains the lodes of West and South Caradon, and may some day be an important concern, while the shares are now about 15s. each, and free from debt of any kind beyond the current cost, which is very slight, owing to there being no steam-power required, as there is ample water-power for all purposes. CARADON UNITED, although not exactly in the same district, is one of the best speculations in Cornwall, and the shares at present price are very cheap, when the extraordinary chances of success are considered. Price of the shares, 20s. paid, 1½ to 2.

P.S.—The actual profit for the past three months in LUDCOTT AND WHEY CONSOLS is 25717. 4s., besides a parcel of lead sold on the 7th, for which credit is not taken. There is not a lead mine in the county doing so well.

From Mr. GEORGE BATTERS.—Considering that it is the first week of the new year, the business of the market for mining shares must be pronounced very active. The actual number of transactions have been numerous, and in the aggregate large in amount even for ordinary times. The new year opens auspiciously on mining, and a favourable feature to notice is that the attention of investors in this class of property is being directed to sound and legitimate undertakings, such as NORTH ROSEKAR, EAST CARADON, EAST CHERTON, WORVAS DOWNS, EAST GRIFFLES, NEW SOUTH CARADON, CARADON UNITED, EAST CHERTON, WORVAS DOWNS, EAST GRIFFLES, NEW SOUTH CARADON, CARADON CONSOLS, &c. The rise in WHEAL HARRIETT shares has been caused by the continued prosperity of the mine. The public cannot surely be aware of the fact that this mine will soon be in the Dividend List. Profits to the extent of 400/- or 500/- per month, according to the agent's own statement, will be made from the tin ground already discovered. When the shares are 50 to 60, they will probably be more sought after. AT CARADON CONSOLS a very important change has taken place in the shaft on the main lode; and, although the lode is not yet rich, it contains good stones of yellow ore, which is indicative of something very good in depth. This mine adjoins West Caradon, that has given such large profits; and, being in whole or virgin ground, renders it a speculation of no ordinary character. The price of the shares is now about 14 to 15. There are only 914 shares, and they are well held by parties in Liskeard, who look forward to its being some day equally as valuable as West and South Caradon; and in the event of a good course of ore being met with the price of the shares would go very high, and of this there are great probabilities. The sale of the LUDCOTT AND WHEY CONSOLS are likely to very much exceed the estimate formed, and will, probably, realise above 4500/-, or about 7000/- for the quarter. According to the present rate of dividends, the shares are worth more than 15/-.

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the work, whom I selected out of nearly 100; they have already got down 3½ fathoms, the ground being very soft for excavating. We shall soon get the shaft to the 20 below adit, but no doubt we shall have large and profitable courses of copper in the 12, where I intend to cross-cut to the Dumpery lode. I enclose you the assayer's ticket of the produce of the last ore we broke out of our adit level, which you will see is 12½ per cent. for copper. We are getting on as fast as the weather will permit. We have a fair of rain, yet it does not hinder us much, our works being sheltered by hills on each side. I hope the masons will complete the building of the smiths' shop soon; the carpenters and sawyers' house is nearly completed, also the road to the mine. I hope to commence the building of the engine-house next week; I have let it at 2s. 5d. per perch, and in removing some ground for the boilers we have come upon a good quarry of stone for the buildings, so that we shall not have to pay anything for carting. The other quarry is only 3 land yards off from the engine-house. I was at Mill Pool Mine yesterday, and I took an inventory of all the materials belonging to the engines; the boilers are as good as new, and full 20 tons weight—one is 37 feet 6 in. long, and 6 feet diameter, the other 33 feet long, by 5 feet 9 in. The whole of the materials are considered to be about 80 tons, which I have let to Messrs. McCarter and Simms to bring to the mine, and is a first-rate bargain.

CUDDRA.—F. Puckey, E. Dunstan, Jan. 8: Saturday last being our setting-day, we have not since taken down any lodes in the different ends and stopes, consequently we have not any alteration to notice since our last weekly report.

CWMBRANE.—Jan. 8: There has been nothing done in the new shaft since my last. The 20 south is without alteration. In the 10 north the lode is large and very kindly, producing good stones of lead; the rise in back of this level will produce 6 cwt. of lead per fm. and full 20 tons weight—one is 37 feet 6 in. long, and 6 feet diameter, the other 33 feet long, by 5 feet 9 in. The whole of the materials are considered to be about 80 tons, which I have let to Messrs. McCarter and Simms to bring to the mine, and is a first-rate bargain.

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DEVON AND CORNWALL UNITED.—T. Nell, Jan. 6: We have no change in the deep adit east. The lode in the rise is not looking so well at present. We have two stopes working in the back, worth 3 and 5 tons of ore per fathom.—William and Mary: The lode in the engine-shaft is worth 8 tons of ore per fathom. The 22 west is worth 2 tons. The rise in the back is worth 4 tons. The north lode, in driving east, is worth 8 tons; the same lode west is worth 2 tons—a very promising end. We have two stopes in the back of the 10, worth 4 and 5 tons of ore per fathom. The lode in the 12, west of water-wheel shaft, is looking very promising.

DEVON NEW COPPER.—P. Hawke, Jan. 7: From the change that occurs in the winge sinking to the east of shaft below the 88, we must be very near the cross-course that was driven through in the 88 about 5 fathoms to the west of the winge. The cross-course dips east from the point intersected in the level about 3½ or 4 feet in a fathom; therefore it begins to show itself in the winge. The leader may be somewhat disturbed at the intersection, but, nevertheless, to find the cross-course continuous in depth is, indeed, a pleasing feature for the production of copper ore. Last night the men engaged at the 100 broke through to a service, when the water came away as black as possible. I very much like the appearance of the cross-course. We are progressing very fair with the erection of the water-wheel. The reservoir is entirely completed.

DRAKE WALLS.—T. Gregory, Jan. 8: The branches in the 102, east of Matthew's shaft, continue to produce some good work for tin. The branches in the 80, west of Bettesley's shaft, are producing saving work for tin. The branches in the 60, west of Brenton's, are worth 15s. per fm. In the 50, west of Brenton's, we have intersected a slide, which has shifted the branches south; it will take a few days to open ground in that direction for the intersection of the main branches. The branches in the 40, west of Brenton's, are worth 10s. per fm., and improving. The branches in Hooper's rise are worth 14s. per fm., and laying open profitably stoping ground. No other change.

DULTA.—J. Murray, Jan. 6: Our bottom cross-cut has much improved; I have set to drive east on Dyer's lode, by four men, at 30s. per fm., and west on Snell's lode, at 25s. per fm. Snell's lode will go near Richards's shaft, where they had solid stones of tin. We have commenced clearing up Richards's shaft, and have found two stones of tin, all but solid, which gives me confidence in the correctness of former statements. We shall cross-cut from Snell's lode to Richards's shaft to prove this lode. We are stamping all the work we can, and the stamps are returning a fair quantity of tin. The dredging is progressing as fast as possible.

DYNGWYM.—E. Davies, Jan. 1: The 82 cross-cut has been extended further, and gone through a new lead; it is 4 ft. wide, with a leader of nearly solid lead, about 4 ft. in, wide, and the other part of the lode contains spots of lead ore; the appearance of this lode is quite a mystery; what underlie it has south, and at present it looks like being a diagonal (counter) lode; it has a promising appearance. I shall drive a short distance on it to enable me to say something about it in my bi-monthly report. There is no change in any other part of the mine. We are preparing to ship another cargo. The Three Brothers is still in port.

EAST ALFRED CONSOLS.—H. Skewes, W. Arthur, Jan. 7: There is no change in the 80 fathom level west of engine-shaft, on the south lode, since our last report. The 80 cross-cut, north of the above shaft, is progressing favourably towards the north lode. The south lode in the 70 fathom level, west of engine-shaft, is 9 inches wide, with occasional stones of ore, but not sufficient to value. In the 50 cross-cut, south of engine-shaft, the ground is easy for driving; we are pushing on this end with all vigour, as there are several lodes to cut standing whole to surface. There is no change in the 50 west, on the north lode. The north lode in the 15 fm. level, east of Orchard-shaft, is showing a more promising appearance, composed of mundic, blonde, and white lead, with a more regular underlie; we expect a better lode in this end shortly. There is no change in any other part of the mine.

EAST BRONFLOYD.—Jan. 6: The lode in the stopes west of engine-shaft, is 9 feet wide, composed of slate, jack, and ore, yielding of the latter 22 cwt. per fm. The lode in the 10, east of shaft, is 31 feet wide (improving), yielding at present 30 cwt. per cubic fm. At the engine-shaft we are striking out a cross-cut into the lode, in order to put more men to work, and in a day or two we shall cut the lode, when we will let you know its value, which no doubt will be very satisfactory. The dressing is going on satisfactorily, and all surface work is going on well. All the machinery is in good order.

EAST CARN BREA.—T. Gianville, J. Scholar, Jan. 7: In the 60, driving west of the cross-cut, the middle lode is yielding 8 tons of copper ore per fm. In the 50 west, the middle lode will produce 1 ton of ore per fm. The other parts of the mine are looking much as usual.

EAST CLOGAU (Gozo).—K. Roberts, Jan. 6: Since my last report, No. 1 level, on St. David's lode, has been driven 7 ft.; the lode maintains its size and kindly appearance, but there is not any discovery yet worthy of particular notice. In No. 2 level, on St. David's lode, the lode has undergone a very favourable change within the last 8 ft. in driving, and judging from its present appearance, we are led to think that it will shortly make a good lode. In No. 1 level, on St. James's lode, our progress in driving is 6 ft.; the change here to mention. In No. 2 level, on St. James's lode, we have driven 3 ft.; this lode is still of a highly promising character, and maintains its size, 5 to 6 ft. In No. 1 level, on St. John's lode, our progress in driving is 3 feet; the ground is hard, and lode much the same in appearance as last reported.

EAST DEVON GREAT CONSOLS.—T. Nell, Jan. 6: The water is not yet quite out of the 70, but the engine is working well. In the 40 north we have intersected another east and west branch or lode, about 6 inches wide, composed of capel, spar, and mundic, being very promising for copper ore.

EAST JANE.—W. Hancock, Jan. 8: The western shaft is sunk 10 fms. 3 ft. under the deep adit level. All the lodes standing on the western side for the last 6 ft. I propose sinking 2 or 3 fms. deeper, and then commence driving north and south in the country 2 or 3 fms. each way, before we cut through the lode; my reason for doing this is to keep the shaft secure; set to 16 men, 2 fms. stent, at 16s. per fm., to work from 1 o'clock on Monday mornings until 10 on Saturday night. The water has not much increased since the stoppage of the engine; by this mode of working, the shaft can be sunk a little deeper, though rather expensive. The deep adit end is at present suspended. Three stopes working in the back of this level, employing 14 men, producing on an average about 3 cwt. of lead per fm.; price for stoping 12s. per fm., 10 fms. stent each pair, the shallow adit to drive north, by four men, 3 fms. stent, at 30s. per fm.; the lode in the end is divided into two parts, each part producing good stones of lead towards the bottom of the level; two men are engaged in the back of this level securing an old run in a stope, to make it available for working. Caution lode to drive east, by three men, 3 fathoms stent, at 45s. per fm.; lode 1½ ft. wide, producing stones of lead. To tram all the ores and tailings from the deep adit to the mouth of the adit by four men, one month, at 15s. 10d. To tram all the ores and tailings from the mouth of the adit to the floors, by two men and two boys, for one month, at 9s.; the men to pay their own cost. The dressing is going on in a regular way. I have commenced dressing a large pile of dredge work that was put out for the crusher.

EAST PROVIDENCE.—T. Uren, Jan. 7: Boorman's shaft will be down to the 60 about the end of this week, when we shall commence to cut a plat and drive west to intersect the flue, where we may expect to find tin ground that will pay well for opening. We shall also commence to sink the above shaft below the 60 as soon as possible. The 40 is driving west on the south lode by two men, at 70s. per fm. In this end the lode has a promising appearance. The same level is driving east by two men, at 70s. per fm., and the lode maintains its size and kind appearance.

EAST ROSEWARNE.—S. James, Jan. 6: We have taken down the north branch at the 45, and find it to be 9 in. wide, worth 9s. per fm.; this seems to be a branch entirely distinct from the lode on which the shaft was sunk, and will intersect it about 6 ft. below the bottom of the shaft, from which intersection we may expect good results. We have set the 65 to drive both east and west. In the 65 east the two branches (inclusive) are worth 19s. per fm. The 65 west is of about the same value. In the 55 east the north lode is 6 inches wide, producing a little ore, but not to value. I have put the men to drive through the horse to cut the south lode, as it is probable this will prove most productive, being on the same bearing of the lode before the split. In the 55 west the lode is 15 in. wide, worth 35s. per fm. The stopes over this level is worth 30s. per fm. In the wings sinking below the 45 the lode is unproductive. In the 45 east, on the engine-shaft, the lode is 14 in. wide, containing mundic, with spots of copper ore. Our tribute department is much as for some months past.

EAST TRESCHERBY.—J. Nancarrow, Jan. 3: The ground in the 40 north is more congenial for ore that it has been for months past. The 40 west, contrary to all expectation, is still in the elian; there are several small branches, most of which contain ore. The lode in the 40 east is regular, there is ore in the end 3 feet high, which looks very promising. In the 55 east we have some rich lead; the lode in the breast of the end is 9 ft. wide, and 11 ft. out water, as usual.

EAST WHEAL AGAR.—F. Pryor, W. Johns, Jan. 2: We are getting on as fast as possible in putting the engine together, and hope to be in a position to put it to work the latter part of this month. The lode in the winge is without alteration to notice since last reported.

EAST WHEAL GRENVILLE.—G. R. Odgers, Wm. Bennett, Jan. 7: The lode in the engine-shaft is 1½ ft. wide, composed of quartz, peach, and mundic, with a little ore and tin—a kindly lode. The lode in the 55 east is 18 in. wide, composed of ore and a little tin, embedded in quartz, peach, and mundic; we are not yet clear of the influence of the cross-course. The lode in the 45 east is 2½ ft. wide, but which we have not taken down for the last nine days; we shall do so in the course of this week, when you shall be fully advised. The lode in the 45 west is 18 in. wide, with good stones of tin and ore, worth 6s. per fathom. Two stopes in the back of the 45 west are worth for tin and ore 10s. per fathom each. The stopes in the back of the 35 east is worth 6s. per fathom. New Lode: There is no change in the 45, west of the cross-course, the ground by the side of it being principally elian.

EAST WHEAL BUSSELL.—J. Goldsworthy, Jan. 7: Maynard's cross-cut in the 120 fm. level north, the lode having been cut into about 8 to 10 inches, which is composed of capel, quartz, prian, iron, grey sulphate and red oxide of copper ore, so far as seen a kindly lode; we boro in the lode 3 feet 9 inches, the sledge from the borer-holes contains rich ore, and a large stream of water flowing from the hole, which looks well. In the 120 fm. level east the lode is 2 feet wide, composed of capel, quartz, mundic, and good stones of yellow copper ore. In the 110 fm. level east, and east of Soper's cross-cut, on the south part of the lode, the lode is 2 feet wide—unproductive. In the 110 fm. level east, and west of Soper's cross-cut, on the south part of the lode, the lode is 3 feet wide, composed of capel, quartz, prian, and mundic, and produces 1½ ton of copper ore per fathom. John's stopes, in the back of the 110 fm. level, is worth 2s. per fathom. Boro's winge, east of Frewin's cross-cut, on the north part of the lode, is suspended for the present; the men are removed to drive the 110 fm. level, west of Frewin's cross-cut, on the north part of the lode, the part of the lode being carried is 5 feet wide, composed of iron, quartz, gossan, and spotted with black oxide of copper ore; a more promising lode I have not seen in any part of the mine. The 100 fm. level east is suspended for the present; the men are removed to drive Molland's cross-cut north, in the 88 fm. level, to prove if there is any more lode in that direction. In the 88 fm. level east the lode is 2 feet wide, composed of capel and quartz, and producing rich stones of yellow

copper ore. In the 65 and 45 fm. levels east the driving has been continued by the side of the lode in favourable ground for progress. In the 55 fm. level, west of Hitchins's engine-shaft, the lode is 2 feet wide, composed of capel, quartz, prian, mundic, and black oxide of copper ore—saving work, and looking promising.

EAST WHEAL TOLGIUS.—Jan. 7: Redruth Consols Lode: There is no alteration for the better in John's shaft, sinking below the 82; the lode is 14 in. wide, composed of spar and capel, with spots of ore. The ground in the 82 cross-cut north is rather hard. We have not intersected the elian course yet. The lode in the 51 east is 16 in. wide, consisting of peach, killas, spar, and mundic. The ground in the 54 cross-cut south is rather hard, and we expect it to continue so for the first few fathoms. The lode in the adit end, east of new shaft, is small and unproductive. The ground in the adit cross-cut is moderately easy.

GARREG.—W. Sandoe, Jan. 7: During the late heavy rains the water has compelled us to suspend operations at the old shaft, and also at the south shaft, and I have now put those men to sink a winze in bottom of the 20, near the whin-shaft, and a little behind the end; we have at this point a very kindly lode, 1½ ft. wide, producing chalcopyrite and lead, and taking in a large stream of water. The end going east from No. 1 stope is just the same as for some time past—a kindly regular lode, and producing good stones of ore.

GAWTON.—G. Lowe, Jan. 8: The 36 west still continues to present the same kindly appearance as hitherto reported on, with a portion of the lode standing both north and south; we, therefore, purpose to open on the lode more effectually—first, by putting up a rise near the end a short distance, which is to day let at 4s. 10s. per fm.; at the same level to drive east on the south part of the lode, by four men, stent 2 fms., at 7s. 10s. per fm. The stopes in bottom of the 10, north of rise, will produce 5 cwt. of lead per fm.

Glasgow WHEAL GILL.—W. Rowe, Jan. 7: Taylor's shaft is down 22 fms. 2 ft. below the adit, in very congenial ground; I expect to get down the required depth for a 25 fm. level by the end of this month, when I purpose at once to commence cross-cutting towards the lode.

GREAT BRIGAN.—T. Trelease, G. Oates, Jan. 5: The ground in the engine-shaft, sinking below the 61 fm. level, is without change; it is still rather spare for sinking.

No lode taken down in the 61 fm. level, driving east of the above shaft, is 18 inches wide, and worth 15s. per fathom.

The lode in cross-course shaft, sinking below the 49 fm. level, is 2 feet wide, producing stones of copper ore of a very kindly appearance.

We have suspended the sinking, and the men have this day commenced to put in a skip-road, and hope to complete it in a fortnight from this time.

The lode in the 49 fm. level, driving west of this shaft, is 4 feet wide, and worth 12s. per fathom.

The North Treskerby lode in the deep adit level, driving west of Oates's shaft, is 2 feet wide, with stones of copper ore, but not to value.

GREAT CARADON.—F. C. Harper, Jan. 3: The men are making good progress with the necessary work, previous to cross-cutting. The shaft is divided from the 40 to the 60, footway fixed, and the pit in a forward state of completion.

GREAT NORTH DOWNS.—T. Trelease, Jan. 5: Our progress in sinking the engine-shaft below the 47 during the past week has been slow, in consequence of the water being very quick.

Vivian's lode in the 47, driving west of the said shaft, is about 7 feet wide, worth 12s. per fm., with a very kindly appearance, and still letting out a quantity of water, which we consider a favourable indication.

The Pendavore lode in the 46, driving west of Rule's shaft, is 5 feet wide, containing spots of ore. We have cleared Jenkins's shaft from the 30 to the 47, and shall put in skip-road as soon as possible.

We have yet intersected in the cross-cut, south of Brown's and Lord's east shaft, but have intersected in the latter a branch about 8 in. wide, containing a little tin, which is saving work.

New Brigant Lode: The water has not yet fallen off sufficient at Job's shaft to put the flat-rode to work to drain this part of the mine below the 40. We have not yet intersected the Con-yard lode at the 40, south of Bawden's shaft. The lode in the 20, driving east of Gribble's shaft, is without change during the past week. We expect to put the crusher to work in the course of this week; we should have done so on Saturday last, but for a flaw discovered in the crank on the main shaft, and are obliged to replace it by a new one before we think it safe for working.

GREAT RETALLACK.—W. Reynolds, Jan. 6: We have re-set the shaft to nine men, to be sunk below the 60, at 20f. per fathom. The 53 west is set to three men and three boys, at 4f. per fathom, to hole to the level west of the engine-shaft. The 40 east and west we have suspended until the communication referred to is effected. A winze in the 12 west will be taken down in the 35 west, by four men, stent 2 fms., at 10s. per fm., and a pitch in the back of the 35 is set to two men, at 6s. 8d. in 12 ft., and the men are raising some rich work. We have set to fourteen men to raise blends, at 11

and the ground rather spare for excavating. Here we are looking forward to something better when we reach the cross-course. This level is extending into unexplored ground, and as the adjoining mines, on parallel lodes, west of this cross-course were exceedingly productive, we have reason to anticipate similar results. The plunger-lift is fixed at Good Fortune engine-shaft, and, if all be well, the 50 fathoms level will be drained some time next week. The tribute pitches are looking tolerably well both at Carr's and Good Fortune, and we intend sampling on Tuesday week. The machinery, &c., is in good working order.

**NORTH BASSET.**—T. Glanville, G. Davey, Jan. 7: In the 152, east of the flat-rod shaft, the lode is 18 in. wide, composed of spar, with occasional stones of copper ore. In the 142 east the lode is 18 in. wide, producing stones of copper and tin ores. In the 102 west the south lode is worth 40. per fm. for tin. In the winze under the 92 the lode is 3 ft. wide, worth 42. per fm.

**NORTH DOLCOATH.**—J. Vivian, J. Paull, Jan. 2: In the past month we have sunk the engine-shaft 2 fms., and intend before commencing to drive to sink 1 fm. further, at which depth we expect to be clear of the cross-course; lode nearly 4 ft. wide, yielding good stones of yellow copper ore. In the 47 east the lode is 2½ ft. wide, much improved in character, and worth about 60. per fm.; set to drive at 42. In the 47 west the lode is 8½ ft. wide, composed of quartz and stannite; kindiy; set at 32. 10s. per fathom. The north lode, in the deep adit east, is about 3 ft. wide, composed of gossan, flookan, killian, and mundic, and the depth (about 4 fms. from surface) of a promising lode.

**NORTH LAXEY.**—R. Rowe, Jan. 6: Since my report of Dec. 30 not much alteration has occurred. The 50 south has improved; the same level north is not looking quite so well. The 88 south continues on the mending side. New Year's Day and day intervening, the week's work has been less than usual. We sampled 20 tons of ore to-day, to be sent on the 20th inst.

**NORTH NANT-Y-MWYN.**—Capt. Williams, Jan. 6: I have been all through the mine, and have given instructions to the men to clear the stuff out of the level in the wood, and as soon as they have finished that to begin to drive a cross-cut north, about 3 fms. from the end. The best plan would be, and the cheapest, to begin to sink at once at the old mine, then I am almost certain we shall have a good mine.

**NORTH WHEAL LUDCOTT.**—Wm. Hancock, Dec. 31: There is not much change since my last. The costeaming is going on in search of the lode opened on near the river, and the cross-cut adit is in favourable ground for the production of lead.

—Jan. 6: We cannot go deep enough in the valley further west on account of the water to cut the lode referred to in my last; we are costeaming the north part of the set rapidly in search of other lodes. The cross-cut adit is in favourable ground; price for driving 2s. per fm., 10s. fms. stent. Nothing done in the north adit on the lode since my last, the men are engaged in costeaming.

**NORTH WHEAL ROBERT.**—J. Richards, Jan. 8: Murchison's Engine-Shaft: In Elliott's cross-cut south, in the 52 west, the ground is still slow for progress, arising from the hard nature of the ground. In the 42 west, east of Davies's winze, on No. 1 south lode, the lode is 18 in. wide, consisting of capel and quartz, mundic and ore, saving work. In the 30 west, east of Edward's cross-cut, on No. 1 south lode, the lode is 1 foot wide, composed of mundic, capels, and good stones of ore. In the 30 west, east of Edward's cross-cut, on No. 1 south lode, the drivage is by the side of the lode, in which the ground is favourable. Fall's rise, in back of the 30 west is communicated with the 20 above, and the driving of the 20, rising and sloping of the back thereof, will be resumed forthwith, and where the lode is worth 16. ton of ore per fm. In Strancombe's cross-cut north, in the 30 west, the ground is favourable, but owing to an increase of water renders it troublesome for prosecution.—Trial Shaft: In Tregebba's cross-cut north, in the 60 east, the ground is favourable for progress. In Scobie's cross-cut south No. 2 lode is intersected; it is 1 foot wide, and consists of capel, quartz, mundic, peach, prian, and good stones of ore.—Tin Lode: In the 42 west, and west of Rowe's cross-cut, or Bennett's winze, the drivage is continued by the side of the lode in favourable ground. In the 42 west, east of the former, the lode is 4 ft. wide, and yields saving work both of tin and copper ores. In the 20 west drivings are commenced both east and west of the cross-cut, by the side of the lode, in ground easy for driving.

—William Godden, January 7: I beg to state that we have intersected the No. 2 south lode in Scobie's cross-cut south, at the 62, west of trial shaft; the lode is about 1 foot wide, composed of capel, quartz, peach, mundic, and good stones of copper ore—a very promising lode.

**PANT-Y-PYDEW.**—R. Nankivell, Jan. 8: We are engaged at present in making washing-floors and other surface work. I expect the engine will be on the mine on the 12th inst., and will be working in course of a fortnight.

**PAR CONSOLS.**—F. Puckey, T. Rich, J. Hosking, Jan. 5: Eastern or Copper part of the Mine—Shepherd's Lode: In the 60, west of Treffry's man-engine shaft, we have cut the lode west of the cross-course, the lode is 3½ ft. wide, of a very promising appearance, composed of quartz, prian, and peach, and worth 16. per fathom for copper. In the same level east the lode is 3 ft. wide, worth 16. per fathom. In the 70 west the lode is 1½ ft. wide, producing saving work, and kindly to improve. In the 80 west the lode is 3 feet wide, and worth 82. per fathom. The lode in the rise in the back of this level is 2 ft. wide, worth 82. per fathom. In the 100 west the lode is 4 ft. wide, worth 102. per fathom. The lode in the winze sinking below the 120 west is now small and poor. In the 200, east of the underlie shaft, the lode is 1 ft. wide, producing occasional stones of ore. We expect the lode in this end will improve in driving a few fathoms further east, as we have a good lode going down in the bottom of the 180.—Gossan Lode: We have no improvement to notice in this lode; the ends are at present poor. In the western, or part of the mine, our prospects are much the same as stated in our last monthly report.

**PEDN-AN-DREAS UNITED.**—Wm. Tregay, J. Thomas, Jan. 3: Sump: The slope on the north side of the shaft, at the 120, is worth 20. per solid fathom. The north wall is not yet reached. The 120 east end is worth 35. per fm. The 120 west end is worth 50. per fm. The 110 east end produces stones of tin. The lode in the winze in the bottom of this level is worth 60. per fm. The 110 west end is worth 52. per fm. The 100 east end is poor. The winze in the bottom of this level is poor. The 100 west end is worth 122. per fm. The 90 west, on the engine lode, is producing stones of tin. The 90 west, on Martin's lode, is producing stones of tin. The 90 west end is poor. Cobble's: The 90 east end is not yet through the cross-course. The 90 west end is worth 42. per fm. The 68 west end is 2 ft. wide, the branches in the 40 east are yielding coarse tinstuff. The water has been kept in fork all the week, and all the men working regularly in the bottom levels. The drawing-engine has been working without much hindrance, and the stamps have been kept regularly supplied with tinstuff.

**PENDEEN CONSOLS.**—J. Warren, Jan. 3: I see no change calling for remark during the past week. The 118 south is quite as good as last reported.

**POLIGHEY MOOR.**—Thos. Bennett, Jan. 5: The north lode east is larger than we have seen it for some time, though not so valuable, the leader part being only 3 to 4 in. wide, good work. The cross-cut being driven south from this point is extended 5 to 6 fms.; ground very soft, and occasionally troublesome. The new shaft on the counter lode is nearly 4 fms. below the 12; lode larger than last reported, more promising, and containing some good stones of tin. The shaft, however, is not yet in compact or settled ground, and the water is quite sufficient for the 6-in. lift with which we are sinking.

**PROSPER UNITED.**—W. H. Martin, W. Mallett, J. Taylor, Jan. 5: At Louis's engine-shaft the sumpten are engaged cutting ground, preparatory to fixing a plunger-lift at the 60 fm. level. In the 60 east, east of Louis's shaft, a cross-cut is commenced to drive north to prove the value of the lodes near the silvans. In the 60 west the lode is 7 feet wide, worth 14. per fathom for tin and copper. The lode in the winze sinking below the 80, on the north part of the lode, west of Louis's shaft, is 4 feet wide, composed chiefly of sulphur, mundic, and stones of yellow copper ore. Hill's shaft is sunk 3 fms. below the 50, the lode is 1 foot wide, containing a little copper ore, but not to valuc. In the 50 end west the lode is 2½ feet wide, composed of peach, quartz, iron, and stones of copper ore—a promising lode.—Louis's Lode: In the 50, east of Hill's shaft, the lode is 3 feet wide—saving work for tin. Hosking's engine-shaft is let to sink below the 70 fm. level, by eight men, at 20. per fathom. The lode in the winze below the 60, east of Hosking's shaft, is 7 feet wide, worth 132. per fathom. In the 50 east the lode is 3 feet wide, yielding low price stamping work for tin. In the 50 east of the cross-cut, north of the silvans, the lode is 3 feet wide, producing good stones of yellow copper ore and tin—saving work.

**PROVIDENCE.**—Wm. Hollow, Jan. 6: Since the date of our last report we have a bunch of lode in the 75 cross-cut south, on the cross-course, producing good stones of tin, but there is not enough seen of it to ascertain its value per fathom. There is no other change to notice.

**REDMOOR.**—T. Taylor, Jan. 6: The lode in back of the 30 is worth about 72. per fm. The lode in the 40 end west is small and poor. No alteration in the 40 cross-cut worthy of notice. Tribute pitches as usual.

**RIVER TAMAR.**—J. Cocks, Jan. 7: In the winze sinking below the adit level the lode continues about 3 ft. wide, of a promising appearance, and yields good stones of ore; the water has increased during the past week. The cross-cut driving south is proceeding favourably.

**ROSEWALL HILL.**—E. Thomas, Jan. 7: All the necessary preparations for sinking the engine-shaft below the 150 are completed, and shall now commence sinking the said shaft below this level with all speed. The lode in the 150 west is worth about 50. per fathom. The Ransom part of the lode, in the 120 west, is producing tin, but not to value; the same will apply to the end east of shaft, and also to the 110 east. The lode in the 80 east has improved, now worth 122. per fathom, and from present appearance it is likely to be more valuable. The slopes over this level are worth 102. per fathom; the slopes in bottom of the same level, east of Noal's winze, are worth 14. per fathom. The lode in the 70 east is worth 72. per fathom. The lode in the 60 east is small and poor. The lode in the 40 east is worth 72. per fathom. The lode in the 30 east is worth 62. per fathom.

**ROSEWARNE CONSOLS.**—T. Uren, J. Berryman, Jan. 7: We have nothing of importance to notice during the past week. All our operations are in regular progress. We shall give a full report in our next.

**ROSEWARNE UNITED.**—H. Woolcock, Jan. 8: The new engine-shaft, on the south lode, is sunk about 11 fathoms; ground good for sinking. In the adit, west of Poole's shaft, the lode is 1½ foot wide, producing stones of copper ore and mundic. In the adit, east of main adit, on Glesier's lode, the lode is about 1½ wide, producing occasional stones of copper ore and mundic. The adit end, driving east of Bluebarrow shaft, on Lannock Moor, at present unproductive. In the adit end, driving west of Dobie's shaft, on the north part, the lode is 15 inches wide, producing good stones of copper ore, and opening ground that will be taken away on tribute.

**ROYALTON.**—T. Parkyn, Jan. 8: We have been raising splendid work for tin; the lode is still holding itself very good, and we have large rocks of tin at surface, that you will be surprised to see raised so shallow. Our prospects are really good.

**SILVER MOUNTAIN.**—C. Williams, Jan. 5: In the cross-cut north, in the deep adit level, the ground is becoming more congenial for lead ore, being composed of jack, mundic, spar, and ore, but not enough of the latter to value; I have no doubt before long we shall make a good discovery at this point. In Blue shaft the lode is from 12 to 13 feet wide, composed of slate, quartz, jack, gossan, and silver-lead ore, yielding of the latter, for an average length of 30 feet, 3 tons per cubic fathom, with every prospect of becoming much more productive. I would now advise erecting suitable machinery for crushing as well as pumping without delay. The dressing and surface work is going satisfactorily.

**SILVER VEIN.**—E. Burn, Jan. 8: The engine-shaft is down 8 fathoms below the 20; the lode there is 3 feet wide; the ore part is about 1 ft. 6 in. wide, and from present appearances likely to improve. The ground continues favourable, and the shaftmen are making good progress in sinking. In the 20 north the lode is small and rather disordered, in consequence of it being in contact with another slide. In driving a few feet from its influence I have no doubt the lode will be found to open up again productive. In the slope, north of shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, producing good ore.

**SORTRIDGE CONSOLS.**—R. Jackson, Jan. 8: In the 50, west of Mayne's cross-cut, on No. 2 south lode, no lode has been taken down this last week. In the 50, west of ventilating shaft, we have commenced to drive south, as we think there is more lode standing in that direction.—In the 40, west of Stancome's cross-cut, on the south part of the lode, the lode is 1½ foot wide, composed of spar, capel, mundic, and good stones of ore. In the 40, west of John's cross-cut, on the south part of the lode, no lode has been taken down this last week. In Gilbert's cross-cut north, on the main part of the lode, the lode is 3 feet wide, composed of spar, prian, gossan, and good stones of ore. In Stancome's rise, in the back of the 20, east of the eastern shaft, on the north part of the main lode, the lode is 1½ foot wide, worth 16. ton of ore per fathom. The tribute department is much the same as for some time past.

**SOUTH CARADON WHEAL HOOPER.**—W. C. Cock, Jan. 3: The ground in the 90 cross-cut north of just the same character as when last reported on.

**SOUTH CARN BREA.**—T. Glanville, Jan. 7: In the flat-rod shaft, sinking below the 98, the lode is worth 30. per fm. In the 98, driving west of the flat-rod shaft, the lode is worth 102. per fm. In the 98 east the lode is worth 102. per fm. In the new shaft, sinking below the 88, the lode is worth 102. per fm.

**SOUTH CRENVER.**—E. Chegwin, Jan. 6: In the 124, driving west of flat-rod shaft, the lode is 1½ ft. wide, producing 1½ ton of ore, worth about 90. per fm., but ground spare for driving. In the 124, driving east of flat-rod shaft, the lode is 2 ft. wide, producing 1½ ton of ore, worth about 60. per fm. In the 105, driving east of the flat-rod shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, producing 1½ ton of ore, worth 92. per fm.; the lode in this end has improved in the past week. In the 105, driving west of the flat-rod shaft, the lode is 2 ft. wide, producing 1 ton of ore, worth 42. per fm., and ground favourable for driving. Our tribute department is without change to notice.

**SOUTH DOLCOATH AND CARNARTHEN CONSOLS.**—W. Roberts, Jan. 7: On Monday last the following tunwork bearings were set:—The flat-rod shaft to sink under the 12 by six men, at 18. per fm. The 12 to drive east of shaft by two men, at 42. per fm. The winze to sink under the adit by two men, at 62. per fm. A rise in the adit of the 12 by two men, at 62. and the 50 fathom level to drive east by four men, at 102. per fm.: in this end the lode is about 1 ft. wide, producing good ore—tribute ground.

**SOUTH EXMOUTH.**—P. Nicollson, G. Mauder, Jan. 7: The west lode, in the 45 north, is opened to fall 4 ft. wide, and is of the most promising appearance, consisting of white iron and barytes, with lead disseminated throughout; this is now approaching the point where the lode so much improved in the level over; we are, therefore, daily expecting to meet with a rich lode in this end. The 45 south, on the west lode, is still in disordered ground; the lode in the end is small, and unproductive of lead to value.

**SOUTH FALCON.**—W. M. St. John, Jan. 6: The lode in the 45, west of the 30, south of the 30, is the full width of the end—a very kindly lode, although at present unproductive of lead to value. The stopes in back of this level, on the west lode, on the whole, are rather improved since last report. The shaftmen are engaged putting down the main rod, fixing lift, &c.; this work, together with the fixing of the skip-road in the whin-shaft, has somewhat interfered with our progress during the past fortnight; but, however, we hope to get the whole completed by to-morrow evening, when we shall be in a position to sink the shaft and carry on all other operations without let or hindrance. There has been no lode met with in the 30 south since it was hove out of its course by the slide. We have commenced a winze in the bottom of the 30, north of James's shaft; the lode is producing good stones of lead, and has very appearance of improving in depth. We sampled, on Friday last, the 22 inst., a parcel of lead of the usual quality (computed 85 tons). All our surface operations, including dressing, are progressing satisfactorily.

**SOUTH WHEAL TOLGOUS.**—Jan. 7: Youren's Lode: Michell's shaft to sink under the 140; the lode is 15 in. wide, unproductive. In the 140, west of Michell's shaft, the lode is 20 in. wide, unproductive. In the 130, west of the same shaft, the lode is 20 in. wide, producing 3½ tons of ore per fm. In the 120, west of the same shaft, the lode is 1 ft. wide, yielding stones of ore. In the winze sinking under the same shaft the lode is 20 in. wide, producing 3½ tons of ore per fm. In the 110 west the lode is small and unproductive. In the 100 west the lode is 15 in. wide, yielding 4 tons of ore per fm. In the 90 west the lode is 15 in. wide, yielding 2 tons of ore per fm. In the 80 west the lode is 15 in. wide, yielding 3½ tons of ore per fm.

**ST. DAVID'S (GOLD).**—H. B. Parry, Jan. 3: The settings for the month are as follows:—Elizabeth Lode: Griffith, Williams, and Co.: Four miners driving at the rate of 150s. per fm.; the lode is more than the width of the level, which is nearly 5 ft. wide, and is composed chiefly of quartz, spotted with copper ore, and a little pyrites, &c.—New Adit: We are pushing on, but it requires more time than I thought of to go under cover; still I will do my best.—Bwiccoch Upper Level: Richard Davies and Co.: Two men driving at the rate of 120s. per fm. There is no alteration in the nature of this lode.

**ST. JUST UNITED.**—J. Cartwheel, Jan. 7: Having now been working one year, I shall this week lay before you how our men are employed:—Three men working steam-engine and stamps, and two at the steam-whim; two men watching stamps day and night; two masons building walls at new stamps, three men raising and bringing stone to masons, four men and two boys sawing timber; five carpenters, three smiths, six men making leats and fixing launders for bringing home clear water to engine; four men preparing tin dressing-floors; one man, three boys, and two girls at water-stamps, and ten men, thirteen boys, and ten girls at steam-stamps dressing tin; six men landing at the different shafts; eight men spelling and filling stamps; five men, with five carts, carrying tinstuff to stamps; two men driving a cutting in order to lay a tramroad to replace the cart-work to stamps,—being on surface, 66 men, 18 boys, 12 girls. Underground we have—one pitman; two sumpmen in engine-shaft; three men clearing up Oats's shaft, and three men clearing up a winze below the 70; two men clearing the 50 east of this shaft—the staff we are clearing from these will pay well for stamping; three men clearing the 70, east of East Buck shaft, and three men clearing up the shaft below this level; two men clearing the 50 west, and two men driving the 50 east of this shaft—a good lode of tin in the end 18 in. wide; three men stoning over this level; two men driving the 50 west, on the new lode, in good tribute ground; three men laying a tramroad in the 70 west, on Wheal Owl lode; four men clearing up the winze below the 120, east is worth 20. per solid fathom. The north wall is not yet reached. The 120 east end is worth 35. per fm. The 120 west end is worth 50. per fm. The 110 east end produces stones of tin. In the 110 west the lode is hard for driving. In the 130, east of Michell's shaft, the lode is large, and producing stones of ore. In the 120 east the lode is 2 ft. wide, consisting of spar and mundic, and good stones of ore. In the 110 east the lode is 2 ft. wide, yielding 2 tons of ore per fm. In the 100 west the lode is 1 ft. wide, yielding 1½ tons of ore per fm. In the 90 west the lode is 1 ft. wide, yielding 1½ tons of ore per fm. In the 80 west the lode is 1 ft. wide, yielding 1½ tons of ore per fm. In the 70 west the lode is 1 ft. wide, yielding 1½ tons of ore per fm. In the 60 west the lode is 1 ft. wide, yielding 1½ tons of ore per fm. In the 50 west the lode is 1 ft. wide, yielding 1½ tons of ore per fm. In the 40 west the lode is 1 ft. wide, yielding 1½ tons of ore per fm. In the 30 west the lode is 1 ft. wide, yielding 1½ tons of ore per fm. In the 20 west the lode is 1 ft. wide, yielding 1½ tons of ore per fm. In the 10 west the lode is 1 ft. wide, yielding 1½ tons of ore per fm. In the 0 west the lode is 1 ft. wide, yielding 1½ tons of ore per fm.

40, east of Firth-one, is looking very promising, worth 6d. per fm.; this end is issuing more water than usual, which we consider a favourable indication. The slopes are without change to notice since our last report. The ground in driving towards Tre-was lode is more favourable for driving, but nothing further discovered since our last.

**WHEAL SILENEY.**—W. Edwards, Jan. 8: The lode in the 60 end east has given occasionally good stones of tin, but at present is poor, still continues large, and letting out a great deal of water. The lode in the 23 west is 2½ ft. wide, giving good stamping work; the ground has become more favourable for driving, lode opening larger, and producing a little tin. The lode in the 23 west is 2½ ft. wide, giving good stamping work; the slope east of winze, in back of the 60, is yielding good stamping work; west of the 60, not so good. The slopes in the upper levels are without change to notice.

**WHEAL THELAWNY.**—R. Pryor, T. Grenfell, Jan. 3: The 182, south of Smith's, is improved in appearance, worth 5d. per fm. The 182 north is worth 4d. per fm. The 172 south is worth 4d. per fm. The 172 north is poor. In the 162, north of Chippendale's, during the last month we have passed through some good tribute ground; the present end at this time disordered by a slide. The 142, north of Chippendale's, is worth 4d. per fathom. The winze sinking below the 140, north of Trellawny's, is worth 15d. per fathom. The 162, north of this shaft, and near the winze, is also worth 15d. per fathom. We have set out our usual number of tribute pitches, but are compelled to give longer tribute. Our pay and setting went off very well. We sampled on Saturday last 60 tons of crop ore; seconds, 50 tons.

**WHEAL TREMAYNE.**—R. Williams, J. Williams, Jan. 3: The new engine-shaft is sunk about 3 fms. under the 133; the lode in bottom of the said shaft is 10 in. wide, yielding low price tinstuff; the ground is still thickly mixed with floors of spar; in the same level, east of shaft, Allen's branch is yielding low price tinstuff, with a favourable appearance. In the 123, east of the same shaft, Allen's branch is worth 4d. per fm. The winze sinking under the same level, on Allen's branch, is down 4 fms. 3 ft.; the branch is worth 14d. per fm. In the 113, east of the same shaft, Allen's branch is worth 20d. per fm. The slopes in back and bottom of the same level, on Allen's branches, are worth on an average 12d. per fm. In the 103 cross-cut south, towards the engine lode, we think the lode is close by from the indications. The slopes in back and bottom of the same level, towards Allen's branches, is worth 10d. per fm. In the cross-cut north of the same level, towards Allen's branches, there is no change to notice. The men at the new engine-shaft are now engaged cutting ground in the 103 for footway, barrow-road, &c.

**WHEAL UNION.**—T. Gavillie, Jan. 7: In the flat-roof shaft the lode is 5 ft. wide, composed of spar, mastic, copper, and tin ores—saving work. In the winze sinking below the 18 the lode is 9 ft. wide, composed of gossan, mixed with black copper ore. **WHEAL UNITY CONSOLS.**—W. H. Reynolds, Jan. 5: The flat-roof shaft is working remarkably well, and the men have almost finished fixing the plunger, and by the end of the week will resume sinking the shaft. In the 75 west the engine lode is large, and of a very promising character. We have a great increase of water in this end, and are looking out for an improvement. Other parts of the mine are much the same as last reported.

**WHEAL UNY.**—S. Coade, M. Rogers, Jan. 3: Tin Lode: The lode in the 100, west of engine-shaft, is worth 15d. per fathom for tin. The 90, west of incline shaft, is worth 10d. per fathom. The 80, west of incline shaft, is worth 5d. per fathom. The 80, east of engine-shaft, is worth 9d. per fathom. The 60, west of incline shaft, is worth 10d. per fathom. Copper Lode: The lode in the 48, west of No. 3 shaft, is 9 in. wide, producing stones of copper ore, but not to value. The lode in the 58, west of No. 3 shaft, is worth 5d. per fathom. The lode in the 58 east is 2½ feet wide, producing stones of copper ore and tinstuff, to the value of 4d. 10s. for the last fathom driving. The rise over the 58 west we expect to hole next week. The ground in the new engine-shaft is more favourable for sinking.

**WORKS DOWNS.**—R. Harry, Jan. 7: Saturday last being our setting-day, the following tut-work bargains and tribute pitches were let:—The slopes in the back of the 60 east, by six men, at 7d. per 100 barrels; lode 10 feet wide, worth 25d. per fathom. The 50 west to clear and repair, by two men, at 15s. per fathom; we have about 8 fms. to clear at this point to reach the end of the ground, and when completed we shall commence driving west under the tin gone down in the bottom of the 40 with all possible dispatch. The 40 to drive north on the counter, by four men, at 4d. per fathom; the lode here is about 12 inches wide, producing good stones of tin—saving work, and likely to improve shortly. The 30 to drive east, on the north lode, by two men, at 4d. per fathom; our object in driving this end is to get in over the north carbonas, so extensively wrought on by the former workers in the levels below, and where we expect to lay open some profitable tin ground.—Tribute: No. 1 pitch, in bottom of the 40, on the canister lode, by four men, at 5s. 4d. in 12. No. 2 on Carbonas, in the deep adit east, by four men, at 18s. 4d. in 12. No. 3, in back of Wheal Flat adit, by two men, at 18s. 4d. in 12. Our month's sale of tin, on Friday last, realised 134d. 3s., and from present prospects our returns will increase.

**YARNER.**—R. Barkell, Jan. 7: The ground in the engine-shaft sinking below the 40 is congenital for copper. In the 40 west we have two cross-cuts, the one north and the other south; this is being done to ascertain if there is any more lode standing, but up to the present date we have not met with any. The two slopes in the bottom of the 30, east and west of Rodda's winze, continue to yield 3 tons per fm. each. We have commenced to drive the 30 west on north lode, where we have two branches about 4 in. wide, each composed of peach and mastic. We are getting on with our dressing as fast as possible, and have now between 80 and 90 tons dressed.

#### THE CLEVELAND IRON DISTRICT.

At a recent meeting of the ironmasters of this now important iron-producing district, the following results were arrived at from actual returns made by each firm to the meeting:—

Total number of furnaces erected	80
In blast, Jan. 1, 1863	59
Out of blast, Jan. 1, 1863	21
Production of pig-iron for the year 1862	Tons 630,000
Stock of pig-iron in the whole district on Dec. 31, 1862	26,904
And inclusive of iron in store.	

By reference to the *Mining Journal*, it will be seen that, whilst the production of Pig-iron has increased, the stocks of iron have decreased:—

On Dec. 31, 1860, the stock was	Tons 70,053
On Dec. 31, 1861, the stock was	52,453
On Dec. 31, 1862, the stock was	25,964

These statistics are very interesting, as they show the trade to be in a healthy thriving condition, and that the demand for Pig-iron is more than equal to the supply.

**COPPER ORE IN SOMERSETSHIRE.**—In the lands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, at about one mile south-east of the City of Wells, there has been found a vein, or rather three veins, one of which, about 2 feet wide, has been sunk upon for about 20 feet deep, and has yielded some very good specimens of the grey and blue sulphure of copper, as also green carbonate. Mr. Jehu Hitchins has recently been called in by the lessor or grantee to inspect it, and thinks it well worth further trial. His report will give more detailed particulars.

**TWARMHAILE MINE.**—It will be seen by our advertising columns that a prospectus has been issued for increasing the capital to work this valuable mine. It is stated that already the returns are nearly 300 tons of copper ore per month, and that these can soon be considerably increased. The dues are very low—namely, 1-24th. According to the arrangement made, no premium or profit is asked, and looking at the unusually good prospects of the mine, and the very influential committee of management, the remaining shares to be disposed of are likely to be taken in a few days, the greater portion, we understand, being already subscribed for.

**PROGRESS OF MINING.**—Mr. J. Y. Watson's Nineteenth Annual Review for the past year, issued under the above title, is now ready. The character of the Review is so well known, as a valuable guide to mining investors, that it would be superfluous to particularise the contents. The statistics are given with the usual accuracy, and the facts appear to have been collected with equal care. The pamphlet contains a very large amount of useful information, and adventurers will find that a shilling could not be better invested than in the purchase of it.

**THE METAL TRADE.**—Messrs. James and Shakespeare yesterday issued their Annual Review of the Metal Trade, which contains a large amount of statistical and general information. With reference to the position of the trade they remark:—“We have seen . . . a stagnation and depression which has not been witnessed for the last 15 years, chiefly caused by the falling off in our exports to the States, and the uncertainty attached to all operations, from the impossibility of foreseeing the duration or issue of a contest almost unparalleled in history.” As we published a full report upon the metal trade during 1862, in the *Mining Journal* of Dec. 27, from our own correspondence, it is unnecessary to allude to the details given with respect to the several metals.

Messrs. Von Dadelzen and North have also issued an elaborate statement with reference to the trade of the year. They remark that its unsatisfactory position at the commencement of 1862 continued during the first six months, dullness and declining prices being the prevailing features. During June a more hopeful feeling was manifested, and this soon grew into an animated trade, all articles being affected in the same manner. The ferment in the iron trade was mainly caused by the great demand for iron for shipbuilding and armour-plates: the acknowledged fact that these would be absolute necessity in all maritime countries gave confidence to consumers of iron of all kinds. We regret to say, however, that during the past month there has been a decided return to dullness, although most articles have sustained their nominal value. This has been mainly caused by the universal feeling that the American civil war will last for some time longer. How far the late severe defeat of the Federals may lead to a termination of the war remains to be proved; but, from the feeling expressed against the Executive, we may hope that some means may be found to bring this lamentable war to an end.

**ELY-MERTHYR COLLERY COMPANY.**—Reports from the colliery state that they have now driven some distance in the Abergwydd steam coal, and an air-way has been driven through to meet the level. The coal looks exceedingly well, and cuts very hard.

**DERBYSHIRE RED BOOK.**—The new edition, for the present year, of the useful little volume bearing this title has just been issued, and is calculated in every way to sustain the high reputation of its predecessor. Several important additions have been made in the volume now before us, including the lists of high sheriffs of Derby during the last 450 years, the car fares for an area of five miles round Derby, &c., and a very interesting view of “quaint old Derby.” The article on the Mineral Resources of the County is so excellent that we shall take an early opportunity of making several extracts from it. The information contained in so varied a character that whatever is desired to be known with reference to the inhabitants and institutions of Derbyshire will readily be obtained from it.

On New Year's Day a deputation of the workmen of Gosforth Colliery met at the house of Mr. John Menham for the purpose of presenting that gentleman with a gold watch and chain on his retiring from the situation of under-viewer of that colliery, which he has held for the long period of 32 years. The presentation was made by Mr. G. Charlton, the cashier, with a few appropriate remarks, to which the worthy gentleman feebly responded.—*Newcastle Daily Chronicle*.

#### The Mining Market; Prices of Metals, Ores, &c.

METAL MARKET—LONDON, Jan. 9, 1863.

COPPER. £ s. d.	SHREWS. Per lb.
Best selected...p. ton 101 0 0—	Sheets ..... 10 14d. —
Tough cake..... " 98 0 0—	Wire ..... 9 14d. —
Tile ..... " 98 0 0—	Tubes ..... 11 14d. —
Burra Burra ..... " 98 0 0—	FOREIGN STEEL. Per Ton.
Copalo ..... " —	Swedish, in kgs (rolled) 15 0 0-15 10 0
Copper wire ...p. lb. 0 1 14—	(hammered). 15 0 0-16 0 0
ditto tubes ..... " 0 1 14—	Ditto, in faggots ..... 16 0 0-18 0 0
Sheathing & bolts p. ton 105 0 0—	English, Spring ..... 18 0 0-23 0 0
Bottoms ..... " 110 0 0—	Blacksmiths' Engineers Tool 44 0 0—
Old (Exchange) ..... " 91 0 0—	Spindles ..... 30 0 0—
IRON. Per Ton.	Quicksilver ..... 7 0 0 per bottle
Bars, Welsh, in London ..... 6 10 0 0—	SPELTER. Per Ton.
Ditto, to arrive ..... 6 10 0 0-6 15 0 0	Foreign ..... 18 0 0—
Nail rods ..... 7 0 0—	To arrive ..... 18 0 0-18 5 0
" Stafford, in London ..... 7 10 0 0—	ZINC.
Bars ditto ..... 7 5 0 0-8 0 0	In sheets ..... 23 5 0-23 10 0
Hoops ditto ..... 8 7 5 0-8 10 0	TIN.
Sheets, single ..... 9 5 0 0-9 15 0 0	English, blocks ..... 115 0 0—
Fig. No. 1, in Wales .. 3 10 0 0-4 0 0	Ditto, Bars (in barrels). 116 0 0—
Refined metal, ditto ..... 4 0 0-5 0 0	Ditto, Refined ..... 120 0 0—
Bars, common, ditto ..... 5 15 0 0—	Banca ..... 119 0 0—
Ditto, merchant, in Tress ..... 10 0 0—	Straits ..... 117 0 0-nom.
Welsh Forge Pig ..... " —	TIN-PLATES.
LEAD.	IC Charcoal, 1st qua. p. bx. 1 8 0 1 8 6
English Fig ..... 21 10 0 0-22 0 0	IX Ditta 1st quality ..... 1 1 0 1 1 4 6
Ditto sheet ..... 21 15 0 0-22 0 0	IX Ditta 2d quality ..... 1 4 6 1 6 0
Ditto red lead ..... 22 0 0 0—	IX Ditta 3d quality ..... 1 10 0 1 12 6
Ditto white ..... 23 10 0 0-30 0 0	IX Coke ..... 1 2 6 1 3 0
Ditto patent shot ..... 23 0 0-23 10 0 0	IX Ditta ..... 1 8 6 1 9 0
Spanish ..... 20 10 0 0—	Indian Charcoal Pigs } 6 12 6 6 15 0 0

\* At the works, ls. to 1s. 6d. per box less.

**REMARKS.**—The new year has not yet brought increased activity in the Metal Market. We generally expect buyers to be operating at the commencement of the year for forward delivery, and speculating on the improvement which is usually looked for in the spring; but at present the prospects of the future are so extremely doubtful as to be anything but satisfactory. Prophecies as to the termination of the American war have so often been falsified, that people are disinclined to speculate on so uncertain an event; and even should the awful strife by some means be stopped a considerable time must elapse before our trade with that country will again assume anything like its former dimensions, and it is questionable if ever it will do so again, as the necessity of heavy customs' duties, and all the ill-feeling which has been engendered, may prove strong barriers to a renewal of trade. The demand for metals for India has slightly improved.

**COPPER.**—English manufactured very dull of sale; orders can be placed at about 10d. Cake, tile, and ingot are difficult to realise at 95d. In foreign a rather better feeling exists, but nothing approaching to activity in demand is visible. Burra Burra, 98d. for cake. Ingots realise about 20s. per ton more; Kapunda, 99d.; Chili, 87d.; Spain, 88d. to 90d. according to brand.

**YELLOW METAL.**—Braziers obtainable at 8d. to 8½d.; sheathing, 8d. to 8½d.; in slightly more demand.

**IRON.**—Greater firmness is manifested by ironmasters. Rails are now quoted firmly at 5d. 12s. 6d. to 5d. 15s. at works. Merchant bars, 6d. 10s. to 6d. 15s., f.o.b. in London; only a limited enquiry exists. Staffordshire descriptions in good demand, at full list prices. Sheets and hoops especially in request. Swedish bars are just now quiet; no sellers under 11d. 10s., higher rates being anticipated shortly, as the arrivals must now be very few, only some few ports being still open, and the stocks here are low. Scotch pigs early in the week declined to 54s., since which buyers have come forward more freely, and the price has advanced to 54s. 10d. buyers, 55s. sellers, mixed numbers, f.o.b. in Glasgow. Shipping brands in steady demand.

**SPELTER.**—There appears to be very little vitality in this market. Sellers and holders continue to have confidence in its stability, and quote 18s. with tolerable firmness; WH in Hull has realised 5s. to 10s. above this figure.

**ZINC** in good demand, at 23d. 5s.

**TIN.**—English without improvement, obtainable at 20s. to 30s. per ton below fixed price. Foreign very quiet. Straits at 117d. cash; Banca, 118s., nominal. Stocks considerably in excess of the last three or four years.

**TIN-PLATES** in ordinary request. The principal shipments continue to be made to America. IC coke, 22s. 6d.

**STEEL.**—Swedish keg and faggot steady, at quotations.

A very large amount of business has been transacted this week in the MINING MARKET both in dividend, progressive, and speculative mines; indeed, we never remember so great a demand for shares at the commencement of a new year as now exists in the market, and it seems to increase daily. On the whole, also, prices have been firm, and in many cases considerable advances have taken place. East Caradon shares have been very active all the week; they opened on Monday 44 to 44½ sellers, and leave off 45½ to 46, ex div. At the meeting, held on Wednesday, the accounts showed a profit of 67172, and a dividend of 61441, or 17, per share was declared, leaving 20971, 12s. 9d. in hand. The next sampling will be 475 tons, and the agent estimates that the discoveries of ore in one month are nearly equal to two months' returns. As several extra costs have been charged in the accounts, the *actual* profit on current costs was over 7000l., and as all charges on account of new engine and pitwork have been paid, an increased dividend may be expected at the next account. In another column, however, such full details of the meeting will be found, that it is unnecessary for us to enter more particularly into the question here;

meeting of the Mining Company of Ireland had naturally a great advantage, particularly as the dividend recommended by their directors, at the rate of 16 per cent. per annum, exceeded the previous one. Their Knockmahon Copper and Luggenure Lead Mines, and their Slievardagh Collieries, are all in a profitable and most satisfactory state of working. The Lisnacan and Dromakeha Collieries, on the other hand, have fallen off in "out put," 3095 tons, and in sales 2399 tons. Owing to a great reduction in the sale of culm, even at reduced prices, these collieries have created a loss of 3087. 15s. 7d.

**BALLYCORUS LEAD-WRKS.**—The net profit from working this concern has been 1399. 8s. 7d., a moiety of which has been transferred, as usual, to the "improvement fund." During the past half-year the sweepings of the new flue have been fully reduced, and have yielded a sum of 399. 6s. 8d., in addition to the 1000. placed to credit of this account last half-year, making a total of 1399. 6s. 8d. realized from the flue for the year ended May 30, 1862.

**KESLDRUM MINE.**—Further operations have been carried on at this mine during the past six months, at a cost of 1850. 10s. 8d., which has been reduced, by the value of ore raised from the mine within the past six months, to 1034. 6s. 9d. The directors consider that this mine has now been fully tested; and having taken the opinions of some of the best mining authorities on the subject, they feel convinced that the prospects do not warrant any further outlay, and they have, therefore, determined on discontinuing operations.

In addition to the extracts and observations we made last week on the Carysfort Mining Company, is to be noticed a great improvement in Balintemple Lead Mines, to which the able and eloquent Chairman alluded in his address as "the reason of the faith" that is in him. The verification, or otherwise, of the conflicting opinions of mining engineers on this part of the company's property ought by this time to afford the directors a pretty correct criterion by which to judge the capabilities of their advisers. The statement which we made last week of there being a reserve of about 200 tons of rich lead ore, and which fact is omitted from the "directors" and engineers' reports, has been confirmed by the Chairman. In his pleasant jocular mode he paid an ill compliment to St. Patrick, the venerated Patron Saint of our country, and their engineer alike. The former he insinuates left "serpents" behind him to be killed by Hercules, of whom the worthy Chairman is an excellent model, within a few inches; and of the latter he says he found something that glittered, but was discovered by Mr. Saunders not to be gold. On the whole, the directors, the Chairman, and the engineers all spoke hopefully of the company's prospects; and, as we have repeatedly said, we have no doubt the Carysfort Mines will yet give satisfactory results, if energetically and systematically worked.

At the Redruth Ticketing, on Thursday, 2356 tons of ore were sold, realising 13,074. 2s. 6d. The particulars of sale were:—Average standard 127. 1s.; average produce, 6s.; average price per ton, 52. 10s.; quantity fine copper, 153 tons 18 cwt. The following are the particulars:—

Date.	Tons.	Standard.	Produce.	Price per ton.	Ore copper.
Dec. 4	2273	£118 7 0	7%	£5 19 6	£51 0 0
" 18	5078	126 16 0	6	4 16 0	80 15 0
" 24	2393	125 16 0	6 1/2	5 3 0	81 19 0
Jan. 1	3156	126 2 0	6 1/2	5 12 0	84 6 0
" 8	2356	127 1 0	6 1/2	5 10 0	84 18 0

Compared with last week's sale the advance has been in the standard 15s., and in the price per ton of ore about 1s. Compared with the corresponding sale of last month the advance has been in the standard 4s., and in the price per ton of ore about 5s.

At the Swansea Ticketing, on Tuesday, 2220 tons of ore were sold, realising 26,279. 2s. The particulars of the sale were—Average standard, 104. 2s.; average produce, 13s.; average price per ton, 112. 16s. 6d.; quantity of fine copper, 299 tons 14 cwt. The following are the particulars of the sales during the past month:—

Date.	Tons.	Standard.	Produce.	Price per ton.	Ore copper.
Dec. 3	1648	£97 11 0	18 1/2	£15 19 6	£53 12 6
" 16	1103	101 4 0	14 1/2	12 11 0	86 12 0
" 22	2220	104 2 0	18 1/2	11 16 0	87 14 0

Compared with the last sale, the advance has been in the standard, 12. 5s., and in the price per ton of ore about 3s. 4d. Compared with the corresponding sale of last month, the advance has been in the standard, 27. 10s., and in the price per ton of ore about 6s. 9d. Of the 2220 tons sold on Tuesday, 515 tons were British ores, which gave an average produce of 9 1/2s., and sold at an average standard of 111. 5s. 6d.—71. 17s. 6d. per ton of ore; the remaining 1705 tons were foreign ores, which gave an average produce of 14 1/2s., and sold at an average standard of 103. 4s. 6d.—13. 0s. 6d. per ton of ore. On Jan. 20 there will be offered for sale about 1885 tons, from Cober, Knockmahon, Cuba, Worthing Regulus, and Lochwinnoch.

[*Errata.*—In the reference to the sale of Dec. 16, the fine copper was stated 10 tons in excess; consequently the statements as to the variation in the standard and the price of the fine copper in the ore were erroneous. There was an advance in the standard of 25s.]

At the East Caradon Mine meeting, on Wednesday (Mr. R. W. Childs in the chair), the accounts for the quarter showed a profit of 6710. A dividend of 6144. (1s. per share) was declared, leaving undivided assets amounting to 2097. Details in another column.

At Wheal Ludcott and Wrey Consols meeting, on Thursday (Mr. R. W. Childs in the chair), the accounts showed a profit on the three months' working of 2517. 4s. A dividend of 2400. (1s. per share) was declared. Capt. R. Knapp reported that the first point worthy of notice in the 60, in the western part of the mine, which has now been driven to the greatest cross-course, will still prove the quality of the western lode, and whether silver exists at the intersections as on the eastern lode. The next point of importance is the question of silver being found at the 96, where there are good indications. The only other important feature is the eleven courses they are now passing in the lower part of the mine on the main lode, which he considers will favourably affect the tide. They have a good deal of lead ground laid open, accompanied with fair and reasonable chances of continued success.

At Wheal Bassett and Grylls meeting, on Dec. 31, the accounts showed a credit balance of 1743. 11s. The profit on the three months' working was 1480. 17s. 7d. A dividend of 1000. (1s. per share) was declared, and 743. 11s. carried to credit of next account. Capt. Wilkin and Harris reported upon the various points of operation.

At South Wheal Frances meeting, on Monday, the accounts for Oct. and Nov. showed—Balance last audit, 2088. 6s. 6d.; copper ore and tin sold and sundries, 2991. 18s. 2d.—5080. 4s. 8d.—Mine cost and sundries, 2319. 9s. 6d.; leaving credit balance, 2760. 15s. The profit on the two months' working was 672. 8s. 6d. A dividend of 496. (1s. per share) was declared, and 2264. carried to credit of next account. Capt. Pascoe, Fisk, and Pope reported upon the various points of operation.

At the Marke Valley Mine meeting, on Wednesday (Mr. W. Fawcett in the chair), the accounts for the quarter showed a profit of 983. A dividend of 2s. 6d. per share was declared, leaving a balance of assets over liabilities of 1101. 9s. 7d. The Chairman said that, although they had not paid so good a dividend to-day as upon previous occasions, yet they considered the elements in the mine warranted them not only in expecting a continuance of dividends, but a considerable improvement in the amount for the future. They would, during the present year, open the lodes at the 100 fathom level westward, where he had no doubt an immense deposit of ore would be laid open, which would last for some time.—A Shareholder enquired the reason of the decreased dividend?—The Chairman replied that it had arisen from the return not having realised so much money, and the decimation in the standard.—Capt. Secombe explained that they had gone through an immense course of ore in the 90 fathom level, and that the shaft would be down to the 100 in about a month. It would, however, take four or five months before it was reached in that level. He was quite prepared to answer any question that shareholders might put with reference to the letter which appeared in the *Mining Journal* last week about the distance driven, and at the same time he might state that, if the man who penned that letter knew the facts of the case, it never would have been written.—Mr. Peter Watson enquired if shareholders might hope to receive a dividend of 2s. 6d. at the next meeting?—Capt. Secombe said there could be no doubt upon that point; they were certain of a large quantity of ore of better quality, which would enable them to pay increased dividends.—Mr. Munday enquired if it was customary in this mine to discount the ore bills?—The Chairman replied that the ore bills were paid into the bank as they were received, and that they were never discounted. After some further discussion, a vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman, which terminated the proceedings.

At North Downs Mine meeting, yesterday (Mr. R. Hallett in the chair), the accounts showed a balance of assets over liabilities of 1101. 9s. 7d. Capt. F. Pryor and John Grenfell reported upon the various points of operation. They will sample, on Tuesday, about the same quantity of ore as last, but of better quality. The ends are not rich, but the chances of discoveries are great; and if the same mode be carried out as at present, by keeping a good staff of tutwork for the purpose of driving cross-cuts, the mine will soon be in as good a condition as ever. Details of the proceedings will be published next week.

At Grambler and St. Aubyn Mine meeting, on Jan. 6, the accounts for Oct. and Nov. showed a debit balance of 2242. 4s. 6d. The loss on the two months' working was 4882. 3s. 5d. A call of 1s. per share was made. Capt. Davey and Michell reported upon the various points of operation.

At Wheal Nelson meeting, on Jan. 3 (Mr. C. Wescoburn in the chair), the accounts for the year ending December showed a debit balance of 1039. 18s. 2d. A call of 1s. per share was made. It was resolved that as one adventurer holding 500 shares, is unable to meet his calls, the operations of the mine be suspended for the present, and that the captain be instructed to secure the lift. Capt. C. Thomas and Jas. Vivian were appointed to inspect and report upon the mine. Thanks were voted to Captain Leam for his ability and economy.

At the Vale of Towy Mine meeting, yesterday, a call of 1s. per share was made.

At the Carn Camborne Mine meeting, on Wednesday (Mr. J. Y. Watson in the chair), the accounts showed a debit balance of 161. 11s. 1d. A call of 1s. 6d. per share was made.

At the West Rose Down Mine meeting, on Wednesday (Mr. W. Wresbridge in the chair), the accounts from Oct. to Jan. showed a debit balance of 52. 2s. 1d. A call of 1s. per share was made.

At the West Great Work Mine meeting, on Dec. 31, the accounts, including the October cost, showed a debit balance of 1858. 16s. A call of 1s. per share was made. It was resolved, that in the opinion of the meeting the reports of Captains J. Vivian and C. Thomas more than confirmed any report made by Captain Reed, the agent of the mine, as to the value of West Great Work seat. It was also resolved that Capt. Reed should proceed with all energy in the exploration of the mine, so that at the

earliest possible period an engine might be erected, as that object had been so strongly recommended by Capts. Thomas and Vivian. Some of the shareholders being in arrear of calls, the purser was instructed to take such legal proceedings as he might think necessary for the recovery of the arrears.

The directors of the Don Pedro Norte del Rey Gold Mining Company have received advice that Capt. Thomas Treloar has concluded the negotiations for the purchase of the gold mine. Capt. Treloar has applied for 1000 shares, and the directors have decided to issue the unallotted shares, *pro rata*, to the shareholders.

**LEEDS, JAN. 8.**—In Mining Shares the business done has been rather more active. Quotations in most descriptions of stock continue depressed, and to all appearance are likely to remain so until the accounts from the mines are verified by ore sufficient, at any rate, to make some of them self-supporting.—John Gledhill and Co.

**LEEDS, JAN. 8.**—During the past week the Mining Market has been very firm, but without much business doing. The following shares have been enquiry for—North Hallenside, New and Old Wheal Prudence, Hobden Moor, Cornubia, and Wensleydale. In consequence of the dividends on railways &c., being now due, a considerable advance may be looked for in railways and mines.—EDWARD BROOKE, Mining Broker, 6, Bank-street.

A petition for winding-up the Keynsham Blue Lias, Lime, and Cement Company (Limited) is to be heard before the Master of the Rolls on Nov. 17.

A petition for winding-up the New Brunswick and Canada Railway and Land Company (Limited) is to be heard before the Master of the Rolls on Jan. 17.

The list of contributors of the Patent Bituminous Water, Gas, and Drainage Pipe Company (Limited) will be settled at the Bankruptcy Court on Jan. 21.

Mr. William Cash, accountant, of Moorgate-street, has been elected auditor of the Buenos Ayres Great Southern Railway Company, in conjunction with Mr. J. E. Wanklyn.

The firm of William Phillips, of the Coal Exchange, consignee of the Earl of Dudley's coal and iron, will be carried on in future under the style of William and Thomas Phillips.

From Lyons we learn that a successful experiment has been tried on the same of a boat with a machine moved by compressed air.

**LANCASHIRE RELIEF FUND.**—We have received from Mr. Thomas Gregory, of Calstock, 7l. 7s.; which was subscribed by the agents and men employed at the Drake Walls Mine, in aid of the distress in Lancashire. The amount has been paid to the Lord Mayor, at the Mansion House.

**COAL MARKET.**—On Monday, only 24 fresh ships having come forward, there was more disposition to purchase coal generally, and a considerable amount of business was done at last day's prices. Best house coal, 17s. to 18s.; seconds, 15s. 6d. to 16s. 6d.; Hartley's, 14s. to 14s. 6d.; Manufacturers', 13s. to 15s. 6d. per ton.—On Wednesday, 15 arrivals. The tone of the market was stronger, and fully last day's prices were realised for all descriptions of coal.—On Friday, only 15 ships arriving, and much colder weather, caused a brisk enquiry for both house and steam coal, and prices advanced 6d. per ton. Manufacturers' as before. Hetton's Wallsend, 18s. 6d.; Gosforth's Wallsend, 16s. 3d.; Tunstall's Wallsend, 16s. 3d.; Lamberton's West Hartley, 15s.; Tanfield Moor, 13s. 6d.; 3 cargoes unsold; 110 ships at sea.

**LONDON COAL TRADE.**—The total supply from all sources for 1862 was 4,977,51 tons 2 cwt., against 5,227,774 tons 17 cwt. in 1861, showing a diminution of 250,253 tons 15 cwt. Of this tonnage the Clay Cross pits, near Chesterfield, Derbyshire, have contributed 186,051 tons 17 cwt.; the Silkstone coal (Wharncliffe, Cooper, and Co., Newton and Co., Smith and Co., Clarke's, &c.), 156,734 tons 16 cwt.; and Codnor-park, 50,460 tons. The supply by railway has been 1,513,296 tons 2 cwt., or a decline of 129,206 tons 5 cwt., the quantity for 1861 being 1,642,503 tons 7 cwt. Of this large total the London and North-Western Railway are entered as carrying 666,181 tons 2 cwt.; Great Northern, 415,812 tons 18 cwt.; Midland, 156,362 tons; Great Eastern, 150,854 tons; and Great Western, 93,276 tons.

The Peninsular and Oriental Company purchased, during last year, the following supplies of coal for their foreign coal depots:—48,000 tons for Malta; 35,000 tons for Point de Galle; 43,000 tons for Aden; 16,000 tons for Singapore; 16,000 tons for Hong Kong; 21,000 tons for Alexandria; 4500 tons for Gibraltar; 19,000 tons for Bombay; 6000 tons for King George's Sound; 4000 tons for Shanghai; 3000 tons for Calcutta; 1500 tons for Mauritius; and 1000 tons for Sydney.

**BRISTOL COAL TRADE.**—During December 730 tons of coal were exported oversea from Bristol, as against 1544 tons in November, showing a falling off in the shipments last month of 814 tons. Taking the past year, however, we find that a tolerably good business has been done in the export coal trade at Bristol, although it is not generally classed as a coaling port, and were a little more energy displayed by the local coalowners this branch of business might be considerably extended. The shipments of coal during 1862 amounted to 12,392 tons, being an average of more than 1000 tons per month, and this, it must be remembered, is exclusive of the coal sent coastwise, of which we have no returns. The following are the places to which shipments of coal were made from Bristol in 1862:—Shanghai, 1147 tons; Quebec, 595; Bilbao, 135; Calcutta, 500; Trieste, 40; Portland (U.S.), 124; Harbour Grace, 317; St. John's (Newfoundland), 862; Bremen, 333; St. Michael's, 371; St. John's (N.B.), 198; Conner, 155; Gaspe, 65; Prince Edward Island, 30; St. Vincent and Jamaica, 13; Barbados, 1906; Tobago, 271; Demerara, 1272; Copenhagen, 90; Cape de Verde, 1080; Nevis, 22; Smyrna, 36; Jersey and Guernsey, 40; Valencia, 111; St. Thomas, 200; Bermuda, 1100; New York, 412; Trinidad, 300; Rio de Janeiro, 276; Stettin, 22 tons.

**GREAT GRIMSBY COAL TRADE.**—Quantity of coal exported from the port of Great Grimsby during December:—To France, 5981 tons; to Hanseatic Towns, 2348; to Norway, 1442; to Ceylon, 1071; to Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 517; to Spain, 1056; to Turkey, 329; to Italy, 746; to Prussia, 197; to Denmark, 99; and to Sweden, 88 tons. Total foreign, 13,874 tons; corresponding month of 1861, 6045 tons. Coastwise, 1275 tons; corresponding month of 1861, 795 tons. Grand total, 15,149 tons; corresponding month of 1861, 6840 tons. Increase, 1862, 8309 tons.

**ACCIDENT AT THE PENDLETON COLLIERY.**—On Sunday last an accident, fortunately unattended by loss of life, occurred at the Pendleton Colliery, belonging to Messrs. Andrew Knowles and Son. Some men were employed in wedging the tubbing, when a small portion of the wedging was blown out, and water began to run into the pit. Information was at once sent to the managers, Mr. S. Horrocks, and Mr. J. Knowles, who came to the pit immediately. The water was running into the pit in a stream, and measures were taken to stop it by getting long wedges of wood and timber, but it was not until one o'clock on Monday that the water was stopped. The furnaces and engine fires were put out as soon as the accident happened, and during the night

**GOLD COMPANY OF THE APPROUAGUE,**  
FRENCH GUYANA.

Established at Paris as a "Société Anonyme," by Imperial Decree of the  
28th May, 1858.

Concession of 200,000 hectares (500,000 acres) of auriferous land.

The French Government, being desirous of encouraging the development of the mineral wealth discovered within the last few years in French Guyana, granted in the year 1857 to this company a concession of 200,000 hectares (500,000 acres) of land, situated at the foot of the mountain of Aicouape, in the immediate neighbourhood of the River Approuague, for the above-mentioned purpose, and also for that of colonisation, in the expectation that the pursuit of the mineral branch of industry would give a value to the adjoining lands, and lead to the formation of settlements there for agricultural purposes.

It was a condition of the granting this privilege by the Government that the concession should not be considered definitive until the expiration of five years from its date, and that in the meantime no negotiation of its shares should take place, nor any quota, or part of them be permitted at the Bourse, in order to prevent the undertaking becoming an object of speculation until the existence and value of the auriferous deposits should be ascertained by actual experience.

This has now been done, with very satisfactory results. It is now proved that the auriferous beds of French Guyana contain a large deposit of gold, and that the average produce obtained from them during four years' working is equal to that of California per man per day.

The auriferous deposit is of a thickness varying from 25 centimètres (9½ inches) to a mètre (39 inches). It is found at a depth of only 75 centimètres (29 inches) from the surface. The gold is obtained by washing, without any chemical manipulation.

With a supply of labour ranging from 80 to 120 men, the company has sent to France more than 300 kilogrammes of gold, of the value of about £1,000,000 francs.

The quality of the gold is pure. The last remittance received in Paris produced 3344.51 frs. the kilogramme. The value of fine gold is 3348 frs. the kilogramme.

The direction of the works has been, since 1858, conducted by Lieut.-Col. Charrère, of the French Infantry of Marine, with the express sanction of the French Government. This gentleman, who has come from Guyana to Paris for the purpose of affording information on the condition and prospects of the company, has presented to the directors an elaborate report thereon, a summary of which will be found annexed.

Colonel Charrère has passed 15 years in the colony of Guyana, in the service of the French Government.

The following has been the produce of gold from the commencement of the workings:

In six months of 1857.....	11,879 kilogrammes.
In the year 1858 .....	41,088 "
1859 .....	54,495 "
" 1860 .....	73,247 "
" 1861 .....	81,338 "

The value of the kilogramme is about £130.

Four separate stations have been established, where the workings are carried on. The only limit to the production of gold appears to consist in the number of hands employed; any number of men from 1000 up to 5000 can be employed.

There is another important element in the company's concerns to be adverted to—the agricultural branch. The company has purchased a sugar plantation, called "La Jamaïque," for the purpose of having a station to which to send any of the workpeople or their families, who might require a change of labour, and also to form a base for agricultural operations, to be gradually extended as circumstances permit. It is a primary consideration with the company to secure a supply of provisions at reasonable prices for its workmen; and it hopes, by offering land to agriculturists on reasonable terms, to encourage them gradually to settle on their lands. The increase in the company's labourers will give a continually increasing demand for the produce of the farms.

The estate of La Jamaïque has cost ..... 100,000 francs.

Of which there remain to be paid by annual instalments .. 84,000 "

But the establishment, in consequence of the outlay made upon the buildings and other improvements, is worth 300,000 " at this time full ..

The capital created by the company at its formation was 20,000 shares, of 100 frs. (£1) each. On these shares 25 frs., or £1 were paid; and this sum, £20,000, has been expended in forming the several working establishments, providing dwellings and a hospital for the workmen, importing labourers, and the acquiring the plantation of La Jamaïque. As is the case in the formation of all new undertakings, much money has doubtless been spent that subsequent experience would have avoided. The shares were in the first instance allotted chiefly to residents in Guyana, the French Government being desirous that every inhabitant of that colony who should desire it should have this opportunity of being interested. But in order to avoid pressing upon these shareholders in the colony by further calls for money, it has been determined to create 20,000 additional shares of 100 frs. (£1) each, on the following conditions:—

20s. per share to be paid on application; 20s. ditto on allotment; the remainder, if required, at such periods as the directors may decide, in calls of not more than 25 frs. (20s.) per share at one time, and at an interval of not less than two months between each call; but no call shall be made until after a dividend shall have been paid out of profits of not less than 10 per cent.

It will be perceived that the capital now to be subscribed will be devoted wholly to the further prosecution of the undertaking; no part of it is to be applied to reimbursing any of the expenses already incurred. The shareholders by whom that outlay has been made will only be remunerated, out of any dividends which may be made of profits, in proportion to the payment they have made. The statutes of the company provide that whenever dividends are made they shall only be paid in proportion to the amount paid on each share.

If the holders of the 20,000 original shares shall pay an additional instalment of 25 frs. (£1) per share they will be entitled, on the payment of dividends, to rank in proportion to such payment.

The main purpose for which capital is required is the importation of labour. There are at present only 120 men at work. The French Government requires, as a condition of the confirmation of the concession, that 500 immigrants shall be introduced during the first year, and 250 during each of the two following years. But the interest of the company requires, without confining itself within these limits, that the supply of labourers shall be increased from time to time, as fast as proper accommodation can be found for them and their families. The company has at present offers from competent parties to place in Guyana several hundreds, from China or India, under engagements to serve the company for eight years, at fixed wages, nourishment, and lodging.

The seat of the direction of the company has hitherto been at Cayenne; it is now to be transferred to Paris. The members of the council d'administration (board of directors) there, being desirous of availing themselves of the experience which has been gained in England of the working of gold companies, have incorporated into their body two directors of the St. John del Rey Mining Company and the Port Phillip Company. The council d'administration will, therefore, be composed as follows:—

The MARQUIS DE BEAUMONT, Paris.

Mons. A. COTTIN (Lahens, A. Cottin, and Co., of Guadaloupe), Paris.

Mons. EMILE DERLANGER, Banker, Paris.

Mons. LE PELLETIER DE ST. REMY, late Auditor of the Council of State, Agent-General of Colonial Banks, Paris.

Mons. FRANCOIS (of Cayenne), Merchant, Paris.

Mons. MALAJOIS, Shipowner, Paris, late Member of Council at La Réunion.

Sir CHARLES H. J. RICH, Bart. (Director of the Port Phillip Company).

J. D. POWLES, Esq. (Chairman of the St. John del Rey Company).

SUPERINTENDENT AT CAYENNE—Lieut.-Col. A. Charrère.

The St. John del Rey Company, working in Brazil, has, with a capital of £125,000, paid to its shareholders dividends amounting to £602,250, besides forming a reserve fund of £40,000; and it is still producing a profit of upwards of £80,000 per annum. The Port Phillip Company, working in Australia, is paying dividends of 20 per cent. per annum.

The French Government is now ready to perfect the concession, provisionally granted in 1857, on the additional capital being subscribed.

BANKERS.—In London ..... The Imperial Bank, Lothbury.

In Paris ..... Messrs. E. d'Erlanger and Co.

BROKERS.—Messrs. Laurence, Son, and Pearce, Auction Mart, London, E.C., where forms of application for shares may be obtained.

**THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE COPPER MINING COMPANY (LIMITED).**

To be incorporated under the Companies Act, 1862.

Capital £150,000, in 15,000 shares of £10 each.

Deposit on application £1 per share, and on allotment a further payment of £1 per share.

Call not to exceed £2 per share, at intervals of three months.

DIRECTORS.

WILLIAM BEVAN, Esq. (Messrs. Wm. Bird and Co.), 2, Laurence Pountney-hill, P. G. VAN DER BYL, Esq. (Messrs. Van der Byl, and Co., Cape Town), 3, Upper Hyde Park-gardens.

OSGOOD HANBURY, Jun., Esq. (Messrs. Hanburys and Lloyds), 60, Lombard-street.

EDWARD JENNER JERRAM, Esq. (Messrs. Wm. Vennin and Co.), 12, Pancras.

WILLIAM KEATES, Esq. (Messrs. Newton, Keates, and Co.), Liverpool.

JOHN KING, Esq. (Messrs. Phillips, King, and Co.), Fowkes-buildings, Tower-street.

EDMUND A. PONTIFEX, Esq. (Messrs. Pontifex and Wood), Farrington Works,

JOHN TAYLOR, Jun., Esq., 6, Queen-street-place.

RICHARD TAYLOR, Esq., 6, Queen-street-place.

AUDITORS—James Anderson, Esq., 20, New Bridge-street; Robert Henry, Esq., 40, Brunswick-square, Brighton.

BANKERS—Messrs. Hanburys and Lloyds, 60, Lombard-street, E.C.

SOLICITORS—Messrs. John and William Gaisworth, 12, Old Jewry Chambers.

MANAGERS—Messrs. John Taylor and Sons, 6, Queen-street-place, Upper Thames-street.

At the head of the last advices, November 14, the mines were yielding well, and 2400 tons of ore were on the beach, a large portion of which will come under the arrangement made between the vendors and the company.

**THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE COPPER MINING COMPANY (LIMITED).**

THIS IS THE LAST DAY FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS FOR SHARES IN THIS COMPANY.

By order of the Board, W. VERNON VENABLES, Sec., 6, Queen-street-place, Upper Thames-street, London, E.C.

ASSAYS AND ANALYSES OF ORES, METALS, &c., on the most moderate terms, and with the utmost accuracy.

List of fees per post, on application.

JOHN LONGMAID, CITY LABORATORY AND ASSAY OFFICE, 31, THORGOMORTON STREET, E.C.

THE ROARING WATER MINING COMPANY (LIMITED).

APPLICATIIONS FOR SHARES in this company will be RECEIVED UNTIL

the 15th JANUARY, 1863.

THOS. COOPER SMITH.

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THE ROARING WATER MINING COMPANY (LIMITED).

**THE PROGRESS OF MINING IN 1862,**  
BEING THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL REVIEW.  
BY J. Y. WATSON, F.G.S., Author of the *Compendium of British Mining* (published in 1843), *Gleanings among Mines and Miners*, &c.

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With a Sketch as well as a Geological Map of the Districts, and embracing all the information that can be required by present shareholders for reference, or as a guide to intending investors, including particulars of the last general meetings, abstract accounts, assets and liabilities, agents' reports, &c. Also, the ore sales of the districts for the past year.

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Price Four Shillings.

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Published by Lockwood and Co., Stationers' Hall-court.

To be had at the MINING JOURNAL office, 26, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

**A CAUTIOUS MAN.**—Many speculators in mines having written to the writer of the letters signed "A Cautious Man," asking him if it would be agreeable to him to transact their mining business for them, and to give them information when he has, by his inspecting agents, fixed on a good mine to speculate in, inform them, and the public generally, that he will have no objection to act as a broker for them in any mines he may recommend, but in no others.

He has taken offices in the City, and will be happy to see any clients who may favour him with their mining business.

He will with pleasure give his opinion to parties holding shares in British mines, as to the advisability of keeping or disposing of their stock.

Those speculators who may entrust him with their business may rest assured that he will make purchases for them in none but good mines, such, in short, as the most experienced mining inspectors in Cornwall would acknowledge to be good. The bulk of calling mines (with but few exceptions), and the trash, he will leave others to speculate in.

By his system, and following his advice, he is confident much money may be made in mining. "A Cautious Man" will get most mines in Cornwall inspected by a truthful and experienced agent for two guineas each. One inspection frequently saves hundreds of pounds.—Address, Mr. Hale, No. 2, Copthall Chambers, Throgmorton-street, London.

Bankers: The Metropolitan and Provincial Bank.

#### Notices to Correspondents.

\*\* Much inconvenience having arisen in consequence of several of the Numbers during the past year being out of print, we recommend that the Journal should be regularly filed on receipt: it then forms an accumulating useful work of reference.

**WELSH GOLD COMPANIES.**—Some time since it was stated in the Journal that an improved process for the extraction of gold from quartz had been patented by Mr. Evan Hopkins; but from that time to the present no allusion has been made (so far as I have seen) as to the results secured by his process. This is the more to be regretted, because there can be no question that the success of some of these enterprises mainly depends upon the question of extraction. Is there any truth in the statement that after the introduction of so many inventions, the most eminent of these companies have determined to adopt the most old-fashioned process extant?—A. B. C.

SIR,—Can any of your numerous and intelligent readers favour us, in the columns of your interesting Journal, with extracts now and then from the "Welsh Triads," which I am told speak of the kings of Carmarthen and Merioneth riding in golden chariots, and furnishing the golden resounding-hoops to the Druidical Church generally throughout Northern Europe in the "good old times."—GODFREY: Devonshire, Jan. 4.

**PROSPER UNITED.**—The administration of the affairs of this company having been placed in the hands of a new finance committee, are the shareholders justified in assuming that the practical executive will within a few months be placed in new hands? It would also be satisfactory to know if any member of the late committee supplied the mine with materials to the extent of some thousands of pounds; and if so, whether the same "member" still forms a portion of the present committee?—LIXX-EYE.

**PROSPER UNITED.**—I am glad to see, by Mr. Crofts' remarks, that we are to have a new purser, who is quite independent of Cornish influences. I trust all my brother-shareholders will support this step.—A SHAREHOLDER: Jas. 7.

**PROSPER UNITED.**—When this mine was set to work, it was boasted that we should have no merchant-shareholders. Has this been adhered to? I am told not. I hear that Mr. Hosking has resigned the pursership. Let us take this opportunity of appointing a successor whose experience and position will be a guarantee for the most efficient performance of his duties; and, above all, who will be quite out of the reach of all Marazion and other influences.—A SHAREHOLDER WHO HAS LOST HIS MONEY.

**WINDING-UP MINING COMPANIES.**—Some of your correspondents complain of the long period required in winding-up Great Wheal Alfred accounts. As a shareholder myself, I can sympathise with them. But a more remarkable case is that of East Margaret. Something like a year and a half has elapsed since this mine was sold, all standing, for 2000. But not a farthing of this has been paid to the selling shareholders. I know a shareholder who has written to me, at an interval of some months, to request a statement of accounts. But Capt. Treweske, the purser, has not so much as vouchsafed him an acknowledgment of his letters. It may be, and probably is, true that things had been so managed as that there was a debt upon the former adventurers; but this, surely, could not have amounted to the whole market value of the mine. In any case, however, the application of the money ought to have been submitted to a meeting of the shareholders, and the accounts circulated. The last account rendered was, it would appear, of a date three months anterior to the date of sale.—Y. Z.

**WEIRD NORRIES.**—Some of the members of the community known as "Busy-bodies" having maliciously stated that a member of the committee has applied to a merchant for a commission upon the goods supplied, it is but an act of justice that his co-commissioners should come forward and disabuse the minds of the shareholders of this slanderous rumour, the more especially if it be without foundation.—SHAREHOLDER.

**GREAT CENTRAL OF GERMANY SLATE AND SLAB COMPANY.**—May I be permitted to enquire the reason that shareholders are not kept informed of the position and prospects of their property? The undertaking was inaugurated under what was supposed to be favourable auspices, and, therefore, the tactful demeanour assumed by the executive is the more inexplicable. If the affairs are not progressing so satisfactorily as could be desired, what possible reason can the directors have for withholding facts from those who have an undoubted right to be possessed of every iota of information, whether it be favourable or otherwise?—A. A.

**RANASAY LEAD MINE.**—This mine has frequently been referred to by our Canadian correspondents, and a reference to it will be found in the "Manual for Explorers," by Messrs. Wilson and Robt. of Montreal, published at our office, price 1s. 6d.

\* \* With the Journal of Dec. 20 was published a SUPPLEMENT SHEET, in which appears a Plan of the Walker Colliery, in explanation of the Remarks of Mr. Matthias Dunn respecting the late Explosion—the Inquest on the sufferers by the Edmund's Main Colliery Explosion—Progress of Mining on the Pacific Coast—the Mineral Resources of the Territories of the United States—Foreign Mining and Metallurgy—North of England Institute of Engineers—Meeting of Companies: West Caradon, Trevenen and Tremehere, Great Wheal Vor, Wheal Union, Great South Tolgus, and Amman Coal Company—Mining Photographs, &c.

\* \* With the Journal of December 18 we gave a SUPPLEMENT, containing Papers on the Processes of Mining on the Pacific Coast—the Geology of Australia—Foreign Mining and Metallurgy—Ancient Geology—Mining Photographs—Meetings of Companies: the Australian, St. Just United, Holmbush, West Far, Caradon Consols, and the Lower Taldwars.—The Copper and Alkali Trades—Gold in New Zealand—

Oxygen Gas—Noxious Vapours from Alkali Works—Lining Puddling Furnaces—Safety Fuse—New Lubricating Grease from Coal Tar—Icelandic Fuel—A Steel Merchant Ship, &c., &c.

## THE MINING JOURNAL Railway and Commercial Gazette.

LONDON, JANUARY 10, 1863.

Nearly twelve months ago we drew attention to the unsatisfactory condition of the LONDON COAL MARKET. The coalowners were complaining of a prolonged depression of prices, of continued overstocking of the market, and of an unhealthy tone in the trade generally. We pointed out to them what we considered to be a remedy for most of the evils of which they complained, and we urged them to abandon the *laissez faire* system—the stolid indifference into which they had fallen,—and bestir themselves to bring the trade once again into a healthy condition. We pointed out to them that the basis upon which the London coal trade was conducted was radically wrong—that it was behind the age, that it benefitted neither the coalowner nor the coal consumer, and that so long as it was upheld they could scarcely hope to rectify those disorders of which they, and they alone, felt the effects.

The system to whose deficiencies we directed attention was that upon which the factorage of coals sent to the Thames is based. Coal factors are paid for their services on a principle that is unknown in any other department of commerce—a principle which can be justified on no other plea than that of ancient custom, and whose continuance can be accounted for only by most unwonted tolerance on the part of those whose interests it affects. Instead of being remunerated by a commission on the amount which their sales realise, coal factors are paid by a tonnage rate upon the quantity which they dispose of, and that, too, irrespective of the price which they may obtain. The natural result is that the factor is encouraged—not to secure the best price that he can get for the article entrusted to him, but to force sales in the market, and, consequently, to lose sight, so to speak, of the interests of the producer in the transaction.

We advised the coalowners to rise up in their strength as a great and influential body of men, and put an end to this antiquated system. At the same time, they were recommended to agitate for a reduction of railway charges and City dues, and other expenses which abstract so much from their pockets. No one ventured to dispute the justice of our remarks, no one questioned the soundness of the advice given. The coalowners, indeed, admit the evil effects of the system, and we do not see how they can well do otherwise, seeing that it affects that important adjunct to the welfare of mankind—the breeches-pocket. One of their number, a resident in the county of Durham, has written strongly upon the subject, giving figures to show the relative expense to the coalowners of the factorage system, and payment at a reasonable rate of commission. Even the committee of the Coal Trade Association, slow and impulsive as the gentlemen composing it generally are—at least in collective capacity—could not refrain from making some allusions to the matter. In their annual report, issued last February, they say—"Looking particularly at the return of coals sent to the London market, the committee scarcely need to enforce the necessity which the trade must feel, under the circumstances, of cheapening both cost of transit and delivery of coals shipped to the metropolis. \* \* The state of the London market adds force to their arguments for taking every practicable step to free coal sent thither from any expenses for sale and delivery." But what "practicable step" has been taken to accomplish this result? Not one. The factorage system exists in full vigour; the City dues are unchanged; the railway charges remain just as they were.

The member of the coal trade to whose writings on this subject we have just alluded has published another appeal to his brethren to bestir themselves in the matter. He says:—

I should like to know whether the result of the twelve months' operations in the London market by any of the great coalowners of this country is so eminently satisfactory that they have no reason at all to complain of it? I believe, on the contrary, that there are but too many of them who must confess that 1862 has in this respect been a worse year for them than even its predecessor. Yet consumption in the capital must have been on an abnormal scale of increase during the summer, owing to the influx of visitors to the Exhibition; while the amount of the supply was actually less than in 1861. Yet in spite of these advantages prices were not supported. At this very moment, owing to the tempest which has recently prevailed, there is a scarcity and consequent advance in the rate of freight to the London market. Concurrently there is a fall in the price of coal here. Thus does the coalowners' candle burn vigorously at both ends! Nor is this a solitary or exceptional instance. The same illogical "effect defective" is of very common occurrence, inasmuch that from this and other perverse causes London gets supplied with the best household coal throughout the year at an average cost price, or so little above it as to be inappreciable. I really can conceive of no valid reason why the best household coal, the produce of collieries that may be counted on the ten fingers, should not be able to maintain itself by its own merits at a remunerating price on the London Coal Exchange throughout the year. Its quality is so far exceptional that it is to some extent isolated from rivalry, and so necessary to a vast class of consumers, that at a fair price (and nothing more is wanted) they must and will have it; in fact, it is not they, but the London coal merchants who reap the chief benefit of the systematic and needless depression of its value. Even the advertising gentry are pocketing 8s. per ton, or thereabouts, gross profit on the best coal, supposing them to supply it genuine, about which "the wiser may make some drachm of a scruple, or perhaps a scruple itself." In short, the only person connected therewith who derives no advantage from the London coal market is he who incurs all the risk and expense of supplying it with best coal—the northern coalowner.

The writer repeats his strictures upon the "mischievous and ruinous anomaly" of the present factorage system, and declares that until there is a change in this matter there will be no hope for an improvement of any permanence or vitality in the London coal market. We echo the sentiment, and as the time is approaching when the Coal Trade Association will meet to agree upon its annual report, we urge them, if they are in earnest about this matter, to indulge in something more forcible than the vague recommendation with which they dismissed the subject last year. The control of the London market is pretty much in their own hands, if they only knew it, and with united energy and perseverance they might remove almost every difficulty under which they now labour. It is of no use to complain; if they do not put their shoulder to the wheel the wagon must stick in the mud—and we may say further, it ought to stick there. It is all very well to talk about lessening consignments, and keeping up prices. Combinations to keep up prices in these days of free trade are impracticable; the temptations to break through them are too great, the opportunities too numerous, but a combination to reform abuses is both feasible and praiseworthy, and in the hands of so powerful a body as the coalowners, could hardly fail to be successful.

Marvellous as, at times, have been the result of mining enterprise, we do not believe there has been a more rapid development of great riches than at the Yudanamutana Mines of South Australia. From our own resources we know nothing, on this occasion, of the progress making, but the local press are continually drawing attention to the extraordinary wealth which this property presents. The unfortunate wreck of the *Columbo*, with the Australian mails, has left us without our usual letters from correspondents; but some journals have come to hand, and extracts therefrom will be found in another column. The *South Australian Advertiser*, of Oct. 25, makes special mention of the Blinman Mine, which is one of those comprised in the Yudanamutana grants, and has been considered as the second in order of importance, yet, notwithstanding it is now shown that, although the workings have not extended over a period of more than four months, that the hands employed are not more than 50 (men and boys), and that the lowest point is only 10 fathoms under surface (this depth, moreover, being at one point only, the average depth being 5 fathoms), it is declared that the ore at grass, in transit to the coast and shipped for this country, gives an aggregate of upwards of 800 tons. Much of this is represented as of the richest possible quality—60 to 70 per cent.; but taking as an average as little as 35 per cent., we have here a declared value of about 30,000*s*. as the yield of four months, or equivalent to 8000*s*. per month, with an outlay for labour of the wages and charges of 50 hands. This, indeed, is a low average to take, when "masses of solid ore of 2 and 3 tons weight, averaging throughout above 60 per cent." are spoken of as being "laid bare," and the ore described as "like rough copper, which has been twice through the smelting-furnace."

We have already said that this has been considered, and probably still is, No. 2 of the mines, the Yudanamutana proper being regarded as of far greater value than the Blinman and others, from the remarkable quantity of ore exposed to view, and described as almost solid; but, supposing that it merely takes equal rank with the Blinman, the produce of the two will present a return of wealth quite unparalleled, and render the paid-up capital quite unnecessary—indeed, an incubus to the project. It will

give an excellent opportunity of returning a portion of the money subscribed to the shareholders—at least 1*s*. per share—and thus render the profits divisible on 2*s*. instead of 3*s*.; or, in other words, declaring a bonus of 33 per cent. Such a step would be unprecedented, we believe, but nothing would tend more to show the *bona fides* of the undertaking, and give confidence to mining enterprise in South Australia; while, in fact, it would only be what the shareholders are entitled to in equity, under the peculiar circumstances of the case. The journal which has reached us is quite silent on the subject of the Yudanamutana proper; but, judging from the prospects of that mine, as shown in our last advices, we do not apprehend that it will be found in any way inferior to the Blinman. By the coming mail it is expected that Capt. ANTHONY, who was sent out from Cornwall to take the general control of the Yudanamutana Mines, will forward his report; and those who have the best opportunity of judging of these matters assure us it must confirm the statements of our colonial contemporary as to Blinman, and the previous remarks in respect of Yudanamutana proper. It will be a document of the utmost importance, and we trust that the directors will give publicity to it *in extenso*.

We will not leave the subject without mentioning another fact of great importance. The question of transit of the ore to the coast has frequently acted as a nightmare to alarmists, and it has been argued that the cost of conveyance would be a very serious item of expenditure. We are assured that even as respects the existing means of sending forward to the coast from the mine that it is not so, that the number of drays to be engaged is large, and the cost not excessive; but to obviate any difficulty of carting increased quantities of ore the directors have purchased three traction-engines, with six wagons to each, which will be shipped from this country within a month. Each train will convey 50 tons, and as the time occupied will not exceed two days each way, the three engines will be capable of doing an enormous amount of work. The cost will not exceed 25*s*. per ton from the mine to the port, and as these carriages will likewise be engaged in taking up stores for the farmers and others, for which a proper charge will be made, the positive expense of bringing the ore down for shipment will necessarily be reduced to a very small figure indeed per ton.

The Barra Burra Mine has experienced no inconvenience from its distance from the coast, although the intermediate country is rough and hilly, and Port Adelaide 108 miles from the mine; whereas Blinman is about the same, or rather less, in distance from Port Augusta, their port of shipment, and the country perfectly level—indeed, the Western Plains constitute the intermediate space, so that it is quite clear there is nothing to apprehend as to cartage, even by the ordinary means, while the traction trains, from the nature of the country, will be propelled with facility and quickness, and thereby readily convey any increased quantity of ore.

#### MINES, MINERALS, AND MINERS—No. I.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

From the turn which the discussion in your Journal has taken on the subject of "Mines, Minerals, and Miners," it appears desirable to say a few words on the terms which are so commonly employed, and so frequently misapplied—Practice, Theory, and Science—in reference to mineral deposits. It does not appear necessary to involve the question with any remarks on Mining operations, since the mechanical processes of sinking, driving, winding, dressing, &c., are in no way concerned in the question. Experience—practice—has taught our miners—and it is the only way in which a man can be taught—how best to employ his muscular power, and the appliances with which he is furnished, in rending the rocks. Certainly to the Agent directing the subterranean works, as to the Engineer who constructs an embankment or drives a tunnel, a knowledge of mechanics is ever valuable; and it is no less certain that a knowledge of some of the laws—rules—which regulate the motion of air, must aid the Agent in securing the necessary ventilation. On these and a few other points I may trouble you on some future occasion.

The questions at issue are—Can a Miner by

projectile uses. The real fulminating gold and silver, as well as the fulminates of these and other metals, are thus circumstantiated. Of one and all the act of detonation is extremely rapid. The immediate shattering effect of such detonation is enormous, but the projectile force is inconsiderable, and hence it is urged that in proportion as an explosive compound approaches the constitution of the fulminates, so would its value as a material for blasting purposes be enhanced. Gun cotton may be regarded as occupying a middle place between the violently explosive fulminates and gunpowder; whilst there is certainly no more danger in using it than in using gunpowder; its combustive duration, under all circumstances, is greater than that of the fulminates, and, what is of still greater importance, that extent of combustive duration may be increased or diminished at pleasure, within certain limits, by the mere expedient of varying the tightness of compression to which the gun cotton is subjected. Long after the hope of using gun cotton for the purposes of warfare had been abandoned in this country, it was considered that for blasting purposes it promised considerable advantages, and Mr. Hall, the powder manufacturer, made arrangements for preparing it on a large scale. A serious accident, however, occurring from the explosion of gun cotton on Mr. Hall's premises; he thenceforth abandoned the manufacture, which in England has never been resumed. Whether the improvement introduced by Baron Lenk, and described in his treatise—"Das geogenen Schießwoll-feld und Gebirgs-schütz (nach Lenk's System) in seiner Eintheilung, Einrichtung, Aus-rüstung, Bedienung, und Verwendung"—will admit of the general use of gun cotton for blasting purposes remains to be seen, but it is certain that two of the greatest obstacles to its application have been removed. By treating the gun cotton with "soluble glass," Baron Lenk has prevented it from absorbing moisture, as it was very liable to do, as formerly manufactured; and he has succeeded in assimilating the various systems of graining (in gunpowder) by spinning the cotton into cords of various sizes.

#### REPORT FROM NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM.

JAN. 8.—The Coal Trade here at the commencement of another year is certainly flat in many of its branches, still the coalowners and workmen do not appear to be despondent. The speedy adjustment of the differences between those parties at the steam coal collieries of Northumberland sufficiently proves this. A slight reduction has been made in the rates paid at most of these collieries; there are some exceptions, however, the old prices having been retained at some works, this being the case at North Seaton and one or two other places. It would appear, however, that the coalowners of this district will be compelled shortly to seek out new channels for the disposal of their coal, or by the establishment of more rapid or cheaper means of transit secure increased sale. The constant increase in the coal supplied to the metropolis by rail from the midland and southern counties would seem to compel some exertions of this kind. Another mode of retaining the house coal trade of the metropolis, and perhaps of regaining some of it already lost, also presents itself in the contemplated drainage of the Tyne collieries, as by this means a considerable quantity of first-class house coal would be available from the High Main seam, and this coal would almost defy all competition. The carrying out of this important measure can hardly be delayed much longer, especially when it is considered that but few collieries remain where a supply of best house coal can be produced, and the number of those is continually and rapidly diminishing.

The new "winning" in the Flasht's coal field has made considerable progress lately, the output having reached 100 tons per day. The operations have, however, been slightly retarded by a feeder of water met with. This feeder is at present 500 gallons per minute, but as the works are drained by means of a level, this will not ultimately cause any injury to the works, neither will it cause much expense. The strata here, principally composed of limestone and red sandstone, abound in open fissures, which convey the water immense distances from the surface, so that considerable feeders of water may be expected to be met with in opening out the coal mines.

The cause of the explosion of gas at Monkwearmouth Colliery has been found to be an escape of gas from the lower seam, now inundated by the water from the metal tubing. The gas having accumulated and forced its passage upwards, and, as before stated, come in contact with the furnace, causing an explosion, fortunately very slight. This has caused another arrangement to be made, the furnace being in course of removal to a more safe situation, and the shaft where the outburst of water took place having now been repaired to the depth of 180 fathoms, this shaft will again be used, as formerly, as an upcast.

The TUNNELLING MACHINE, lately worked in the Claxton's Quarry, Gateshead, is now considered to be very efficient, several improvements having been introduced in the mode of inserting the cutting chisels used, and also in the form and mode of making those chisels. It is now being removed, and we understand it is to be sent to Italy at once, to be used in the construction of the tunnel through Mount Cenis; and the makers of the machine, Messrs. Hawks and Crawshay, of Gateshead, are preparing plans for the construction of another machine, into which all the improvements suggested by the long trial in the Claxton's Quarry will be introduced.

The "legal correspondent" of the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*, under the head "Mines and Minerals," says:—"The Newcastle and Gateshead Law Society, in the annual report of the committee, lately presented, refer to the Act passed in the last session "to confirm and sanction dealing under powers of sale by trustees." They say:—"The bill originated at Bristol, and had reference to the reservation of mines and minerals, on the sale by trustees of the surface, and was rendered necessary by the decision of the Master of the Rolls in a recent case of Buckley v. Howell, wherein he held that under the ordinary power of sale or exchange trustees could not sell the surface, reserving the coals or other minerals, or, vice versa, sell the minerals without the surface. As this decision affected innumerable titles in the West of England as well as in the North, your committee co-operated with the Bristol Law Society in the first instance, and afterwards with the Incorporated Law Society, in obtaining a parliamentary confirmation of the titles which were considered insecure by the exercise of the power of trustees in this behalf. A petition was prepared and sent for presentation to the House of Lords, and the bill was passed without opposition."

#### REPORT FROM NORTH AND SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.

JAN. 8.—The Quarterly Meetings of Ironmasters, and others connected with the trade, have been held this week, at Wolverhampton on Wednesday, and to-day at Birmingham. At each meeting the attendance has been tolerably large, and the tone of the meetings favourable. The orders in hand at the commencement of the year are usually of small amount, as stock-taking and balancing accounts interrupt the course of business, and at the present moment some of the makers of finished iron are rather short of orders. There was, however, a general impression that after the meetings, and as the spring approaches, there will be a good demand. The effect of the uncertainty which the state of war in America occasions is to restrict operations to current wants, and to check speculation; and, as this state of things has prevailed for some time, stocks of iron are low, and many purchases of iron have been delayed from time to time. It is, therefore, highly probable that there will be a good demand during this year, especially if the shipbuilding trade remains as good as it has been for some time past. America is taking considerable quantities of iron, and must do so as long as the war lasts. France is steadily increasing her consumption, and, though it is probable that the demand for Lancashire will be flat this year, the present low prices will be pretty sure to lead to considerable purchases for railways at home and abroad. The best proof of the soundness of the Iron Trade is to be found in the fact that the actual business done at the meetings, which is mainly in the sale of pig-iron, has been in most cases at an advance of 1s. 3d., or in some cases 2s. 6d., per ton on the advanced rates realised in Oct. last. Pig makers are very firm at the advance, and it has been given by many of the large purchasers of pig-iron. Cinder pigs have been steadily rising in price, owing to the increased demand, which arises from the augmented employment of hematite iron, with which this inferior make forms a good mixture. Sales have been effected at the meetings of this kind of pig-iron at 2s. 17s. 6d., which is an advance of fully 7s. 6d. on the price paid at the commencement of 1862, and which gradually rose during the year. Owing to the higher price of Staffordshire pigs, more Cleveland iron is now coming into South Staffordshire. The carriage paid is about 11s. 8d. per ton—a considerable rate, but which the difference of price in the two districts enables purchasers to pay. Accounts from that district describe the makers of finished iron there as being very busy, especially in the shipbuilding trade. One important element in the present aspect of the Iron Trade is the increased and increasing consumption of thick plates for war vessels and for fortifications. In connection with this subject, it may be mentioned that Mr. J. B. Johnson, roll turner of Wolverhampton, is making two pairs of rolls for Messrs. John Brown and Co., of Sheffield, for rolling armour-plates 6*in.* thick. Each roll is 2 ft. 8*in.* in diameter when finished, with a clear length of 8 ft., besides the nicks and ends; and each weighs 11*1*/<sub>2</sub> tons. These are, in all probability,

the largest rolls ever turned in the world, and would astonish some of the old ironmasters; indeed, they do astonish the makers of the present day.

The Coal Trade is very active; for some time the price of coal has been low, and there has been an indisposition to open new mines, and as the small workings are undertaken by persons of little capital, and who work mines over again to get the remnants, the supply is scarcely equal to the demand. Should the present requirements continue, probably new pits will be opened, and some are being sunk at the present time, or mines now in operation carried down to lower measures.

The shocking accident at Prior's Lee, Shropshire, by which eleven men and boys were killed, as noted last week, excited the sympathy of the inhabitants of Wellington, who held a meeting on the evening of the 2d inst., for the purpose of providing funds for the support of the widows and orphans of the men killed. A number of influential gentlemen were present, but as one of them was appealing to those present on behalf of the sufferers a letter was handed to the chairman from Mr. T. E. Horton, one of the partners of the Lilleshall Company, for whom the deceased worked, stating that they intended to provide for the families until they were able to do for themselves. This rendered further proceedings unnecessary, except that a resolution expressing the gratification of the meeting at the liberality of the company was passed. The conduct of the Lilleshall Company needs no comment—it speaks its own praise; but it does suggest that steps should be taken to establish societies specially for miners, which would afford relief, not only in cases of accident, but also in illness and old age. Whether the attempts to establish such an institution for the whole kingdom is likely to succeed it is difficult to say, but either general or local societies of this nature are great social necessities.

The NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE COAL AND IRONMASTERS' ASSOCIATION held its quarterly meeting at Stoke, on Thursday last. Mr. Wragge was re-appointed Chairman for the current year, and a vote of thanks was given to him for his services during the past year. The *Staffordshire Advertiser* says that the meeting adopted the resolution of the South Staffordshire Ironmasters to make no alteration in the prices of finished iron for the ensuing quarter, and an opinion was expressed that any attempt to obtain an advance upon the list prices (which were fixed in July, 1861, and have been in operation since that time) would be attended with failure at the present time. In pig-iron but few transactions were reported. The price of the best North Staffordshire forge may be quoted at 57s. 6d. at the works, while other qualities may be brought for less money. The attempt to obtain better prices for ironstone was stated not to have been successful. The coalmasters who depend upon house-fire consumption have suffered from an unusually slack demand for the time of year, in consequence of the mildness of the weather. It was stated at the meeting that some of the employers have received applications from their workpeople for an advance of wages, and that one or two in the district has conceded a conditional increase per ton. The question was very fully discussed, and it was resolved that any advance of wages was not justified at the present time, and that the meeting regretted that a few firms in the district had admitted any alteration in the scale of wages without a conference of the trade upon the subject. The proposal to rate ironstone mines was mentioned, and led to discussion. The feeling of the meeting was that the existing mode of rating coal mines is so unfair, that any extension of the same system would be in the highest degree inequitable and open to objection. The meeting was well attended, and most of the principal firms in North Staffordshire were represented at it.

#### REPORT FROM MONMOUTH AND SOUTH WALES.

JAN. 8.—The traffic on the railways of the kingdom is generally a good key as to the prosperity of the several districts through which they pass. From various circumstances, which are well known to the commercial public, the year 1862 has been one of considerable depression in every branch of trade, and a diminution in railway traffic might be naturally looked for. This has been the case in many instances; but where the passenger traffic forms a material item such as on the Great Western, West Midland, London and North-Western, &c., an increase has taken place, mainly in consequence of the large number that visited the Exhibition. This, however, hardly affects the shorter railways, where the passenger traffic only averages from one-fifth to one-tenth of the mineral and other traffic. It is gratifying, therefore, to find that every railway in this district, despite the general depression which has prevailed, shows a substantial increase in receipts as compared with the corresponding period of 1861, which is another proof of the vast resources of the district. The following are the total receipts for the last six months of the two years respectively:—

	1861.	1862.
Llanelli and Llandilo	14,280	15,880
Monmouthshire Railway and Canal	61,319	62,639
Rhymney	18,964	22,932
Taff Vale	125,657	137,597
Vale of Neath	47,138	50,994

These figures speak for themselves, and need no comment. One fact which may be deduced from the returns deserves notice. As a gradual and sound increase has taken place in the receipts during a time of so much depression, it may be safely inferred that, were the coal and iron trade in that active state which was the case a few years since, the Welsh lines would unquestionably be the best paying in the kingdom. As matters are at present their dividends average from 4 to 9 per cent.

An application for a winding-up order was made against the Llanharry Hematite Iron Ore Company (Limited), before the Master of the Rolls, on Dec. 20. The Directors of the defunct company were Sir Patrick Cusack Roney, 15, Langham-place; J. S. Adams, Philpot-lane; T. Osborne Stock, Lloyd's; Francis Tothill, West of England and South Wales District Bank, Clifton; and C. H. Waring, the Darren, Neath. Mr. Selwyn, Q.C., appeared in support of the application, and said this was a petition of Mr. Habakkuk, a contractor, and a judgment creditor of the company for a heavy amount. Execution had been issued under the judgment, to which a return of *nulla bona* had been obtained. The petition asked for the usual order of winding up. The Master of the Rolls asked if the proper parties had been served and the necessary advertisements issued. Mr. Selwyn replied that these matters had been completed with. They had not said anything about an official manager; but if his Honour thought proper to appoint Mr. Harding the petitioner would not object. The Master of the Rolls said no notice had been given of this. The usual winding-up order was then made. It is expected that the case will come before the Court again some time this month, when the directors will have to attend in order to be examined by Mr. Selwyn on behalf of the petitioning creditor. Mr. Habakkuk was the contractor of the company, and his claim arises from wages, labour, and plant in working the mine. The amount of the debt is upwards of 1600*l.*, exclusive of the costs. It is stated that some curious revelations will be made as to the mode in which many public companies are got up.

A case of some interest to the mining public came before the Glamorganshire Court of Sessions this week. The Mwyndy Iron Ore Company appealed against the poor-rate valuation made upon them, on the ground that the premises were iron mines, and as such not legally ratable. They also held that if they were liable to be rated the valuation (1860*l.*) was excessive. Mr. T. Allen appeared in support of the applicants' case, and Mr. Bowen and Mr. Hughes represented the respondents, the overseers of the parish of Llantrisant. The counsel for the respondents contended that, as a large quantity of ore was raised from patches, it was liable to be rated. Several witnesses were examined, and the Court decided that the company were liable to be rated in respect of ore raised from the patches. The ratable value was reduced to 1500*l.*, each party paying their own costs.

The general meeting of the Swansea Canal Company was held on the 2d inst., and it was resolved that the proposed railway to Bryn Amman and Gwaenacwn should be forthwith constructed. The railway will pass through an important undeveloped mineral district, and there is no doubt but that the company will receive handsome returns for their capital.

At the South Wales Institute of Engineers general meeting, to be held at Merthyr Tydfil, on Jan. 11, the following papers (read at former meetings) will be discussed:—Mr. Cox's, "On the selection and treatment of coal for the blast-furnace and cupola;" Mr. Parry's, "On puddled steel;" Mr. T. James', "On mining in the county of Leitrim;" Mr. Waring's, "On coal-cutting machinery;" and the following papers read and discussed:—"On the selection and value of coke," by Mr. Child; "On long work," by Mr. Hedley; "On boiler explosions," by Mr. M. Jones.

SOUTH WALES SHIPPING PORTS.—The returns which have come to hand of the exports and imports of various ports in South Wales, show that a satisfactory amount of business has been done during the past month; and, notwithstanding the adverse circumstances against which both the staple trades of the district have had to struggle (the American trade being completely destroyed), we are glad to find that the exports both of coal and iron exceed those of the previous years of 1861 or 1860. As compared with the exports for the year 1859, there is a large increase on coals, but a decrease on iron, that year being acknowledged as one of the most prosperous for the iron masters.

CARDIFF.—When we consider that this port has no less than 37 or 38 coal shipping docks, and uninterrupted narrow gauge communication with Aberdare and the heart of the steam coal basin, it is no wonder that it still maintains its lead as the chief exporting port in the whole Channel. During the past month of December a very large quantity of coal was sent off, whilst for the whole year of 1862 the export has been unprecedented. The following are the returns for the past four years:—

1859	Tons coal	988,187	Tons iron	182,817
1860		1,142,622		169,467
1861		1,127,232		132,493
1862		1,322,531		172,359

Notwithstanding this great increase, we fully anticipate that the present year of 1863 will prove more prosperous, for our column have already announced the fact that the whole of the contracts for the supply of the West India Mail Company's boats have been transferred from Newport to Cardiff, i.e. which contract alone will certainly not be under 100,000 tons. Whilst the traders, therefore, have ample cause to feel satisfied with their present prosperity and still better prospects, we think that they should make a determined and united effort to foster and encourage an import trade, for without which the port generally, and the town most especially, will never enjoy that high commercial status and prosperity which are shared in by those ports which have both an export and import trade.

NEWPORT.—This port has done a good stroke of business during the past month, more especially in the coasting trade; but it is believed that the official returns (which have not yet come to hand) will show a decrease upon the trade of the year which has just closed. The removal of the West Indian Mail contract from the port of Cardiff is a striking proof of the correctness of the remark we have often made—that the trade of Newport is surely decaying, and should induce the authorities to exert themselves to render available those facilities for doing a large trade which they have at their command.

SWANSEA.—This port has made considerable progress during the past year, and the official returns just issued under the authority of the Harbour Trustees prove that Swansea is a growing port. During the year several large coal docks have been erected in the south docks by the Vale of Neath Railway Company, whilst others are being energetically pushed forward, which, together with the opening of the direct line from Neath to Swansea, will doubtless give a still further impetus to the trade of the port. The great requirement of Swansea is narrow gauge communication with the steam coal basin of the Abertard district, and this, we are glad to say, will be afforded by the opening of the line of railway just mentioned. That a large increase of trade is naturally expected to arise therefrom is evident from the number of new coal docks which have recently been erected by the railway company, and the strenuous exertions of the Harbour Trustees and the local authorities to obtain increased depth of water, so as to allow of vessels of larger burthen coming to the port. From the returns of the past month we find that 425 vessels entered the port with an aggregate registered tonnage of 58,316 tons, and the shipping rates received for the month were 1492*l.* 5s. 7d. For the corresponding month of 1861 the number of vessels which entered the port were 590, with an aggregate registered tonnage of 45,438 tons, and the shipping rates received were 1102*l.* 4s. 7d. During the year 1862, 676 ships, with a registered tonnage of 655,847, entered the port, the total shipping rates received being 15,830*l.* 19s. 8*1*/<sub>2</sub>d., whilst for the year 1861 the number of vessels were 5700, with a registered tonnage of 620,151, and the total shipping rates received were 14,182*l.* 3s. 3*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. The increase in favour of 1862 being 67 ships, 35,996 tons, and 135*l.* 16s. 5*1*/<sub>2</sub>d. The great increase has been in the

European trade, or in vessels over 100 and under 300 tons register. The exports are not given, but the lowest estimate which has been made puts down the total quantity of coal at between 600,000 and 700,000 tons, but the exports of iron have been small.

NEATH HARBOUR.—Abstract of the trade of the Port of Neath (including the Briton Ferry Docks) for the month ending Dec. 31:—

European trade, 15 vessels, 1369 tons register, 2144 tons burthen; coasting trade, 123 vessels, 9629 tons register, 14,776 tons burthen; beyond Europe, 1 vessel, 123 tons register, 219 tons burthen: total, 130 vessels, 11,131 tons register, 17,139 tons burthen.
Imports.—Copper ore, 3543 tons; pig-iron, 820 tons; iron ore, 1467 tons; grain, 1168 tons; pit and cord wood, 291 tons; timber, 79 tons; miscellaneous, 335 tons: total, 7766 tons.
Exports.—Coal, coke, and culm, 14,478 tons; copper, 181 tons; bar iron, 495; timber, 326; timber, 18 tons; miscellaneous, 367 tons: total, 15,865 tons.

BIRCH.—On January 2, at Abercarn, Mr. EBENEZER ROGERS, aged 46, Fellow of the Geological Society of London, and a member of the South Wales Institute of Engineers, a scientific societies. He took much interest in the development of mining, and lost no opportunity of urging upon the practical man the importance of sound scientific knowledge, or of aiding him in attaining it. He was a highly-esteemed correspondent of the *Mining Journal*, his contributions being at all times of a thoroughly practical and useful character. Some years since Mr. Rogers discovered the "Red Mine," on the Brandon Bank, Somersethire, and the Ebbw Vale Company became the lessees of the property. By his discovery he obtained a handsome yearly income, and during the last few years lived in comparative seclusion. The scientific attainments of the deceased were known not only in the district, but throughout the kingdom; and his loss cannot fail to be regretted by the members of the associations with which he was connected and a large circle of private friends.

#### REPORT FROM DERBYSHIRE, YORKSHIRE, AND LANCASHIRE.

JAN. 8.—The Iron Trade during the past week has been in an improved state, and the reports from the district are generally of a more encouraging nature. There is an unusually heavy demand for rails and armour plates; indeed, the enquiry generally for railway iron is exceedingly brisk, and likely to be much more active, if only a section of the bills which are now before Parliament should receive official sanction. The Midland and Great Northern have just given out a large order for renewals, which has been taken by two Yorkshire houses. The Coal Trade is very active, and the demand for the London and southern markets has visibly improved. There is a rumour about an advance in rates, but up to the present time we have not had any actual intimation of the circumstance. The men at all the works are fully employed, and there is every prospect of a good spring trade. A very sad accident took place at the Clay Cross Works, on Monday. Mr. John Parker

plates, has been quoted at Paris at 99t., tonth cake at 98t., Lake Superior at 107t., Chilian at 91t., and Corocoro mineral at 98t. At Havre, Chilian and Peruvian, in bars, has made 29t.; Peruvian mineral (pure standard), 91t.; United States (Baltimore), 98t.; Lake Superior, 103t. to 104t.; Mexican and Plata, in bars, 80t.; Russian, 104t.; old yellow copper, 54t. to 58t., and red ditto, 87t. As regards tin, the quotation for Banca at Paris has been 122t.; Detroit, 121t.; English, 115t. At Havre, Banca has made 122t.; Detroit, 116t. to 118t.; Peruvian, 92t.; Peruvian mineral, 82t. to 85t. The situation of the Dutch tin market was stated as follows at the close of December:—

1862	1861	1860	
Stock, Nov. 23 .....	Ingot 73,690 .....	62,028 .....	69,964
Deliveries to Dec. 24 .....	8,950 .....	8,057 .....	4,750

Stock, Dec. 24 .....

Arrived for approaching sale .....

Spanish lead pig has changed hands at Paris at 22t. 12s. French, 22t.; Belgian, 22t.

At Havre the quotation for Spanish has been 19t. 12s. to 19t. 16s. In zinc, business has been done in rough Silesian at Paris at 18t. 8s., and rolled at 28t. per ton.

M. Tissier, director and founder of an aluminium manufactory at Rouen, has just published a valuable work on the mixture of metals. It is scarcely necessary to recall the fact that the metals most familiarly known, and which change hands the most frequently in commercial transactions, are zinc, antimony, silver, iron, bismuth, mercury, aluminum, lead, gold, copper, platinum, arsenic, and nickel. These metals serve to make a number of alliances, or mixtures, and it is of these mixtures that M. Tissier's book treats. A mixture will be so much the more homogeneous, it is argued, and will approach so much the nearer in its qualities to the characteristics of simple perfect metals, in proportion as the combination of its elements is more close and intimate. To attain this object three conditions are indispensable. It is necessary—first, that the metals sought to be united should have between themselves a sufficient affinity; secondly, that this affinity should be such that they can combine together, and not be confusedly mixed up in almost unlimited proportions, for if the combination can only be made in certain proportions which do not agree with the dose adopted in order to obtain such and such quality, the mixture will tend to separate itself into two portions, one of which will be the defined combination, and the other the metal put in in excess; and, thirdly, that the metals which compose the mixture should be equally fixed, or equally volatile, for if one of them is volatile to the exclusion of the others, it will always have a tendency to escape, and the mixture will be impoverished by being deprived of one of its elements. As regards the mixtures of copper most commonly employed in industrial pursuits—viz., bronze and brass—the principles just laid down have been often misunderstood, or rather not understood at all, on the Continent. This has arisen in great part from the fact that founders have scarcely at their disposal more than two metals—viz., tin and zinc; and they have not troubled themselves to enquire whether these two metals were the most suitable for the purpose to which they wished to apply them, because in business questions of price are paramount to all others, and tin and zinc are the only cheap metals susceptible of forming alliances with copper, platinum, gold, mercury, and silver have not been allied with copper, either because they do not communicate special qualities to it, or because it is necessary in order to obtain such a result to employ a large proportion of those metals—a proportion rendered impossible by their high price. Several efforts have been made at various times to obtain, by the introduction of small quantities of iron and lead, advantageous modifications in the properties of copper and its mixtures; but the results secured have presented little regularity, as was, indeed, to be expected, taking into account the little affinity of iron and lead for copper, which has a tendency to free itself from these two metals. Antimony and bismuth do not furnish available mixtures with copper on account of their great fragility. It has been ascertained, besides, that small quantities of these metals are injurious to the malleability of copper, without introducing any happy modification in its qualities. Arsenic is utilized in the production of certain mixtures; thus, what is known abroad as tombac, or white copper, which serves for the fabrication of buttons, is formed with 97 per cent. of copper, 2 per cent. of zinc, and 1 of arsenic. Arsenic certainly injures the malleability of copper, but not so much as may be imagined. Copper containing 1·8 or 2·0 per cent. of arsenic, although less ductile than pure copper, are distinguished, nevertheless, by great tenacity. This arsenical copper may be recognized by its greater hardness, its more yellowish tint, and the less tendency which it displays to change when exposed to the action of the air, and sulphurized hydrogen. Thus, if two freshly-broken ingots, one of pure copper, and one of arsenical copper, are placed in an atmosphere containing traces of sulphurized hydrogen, it will soon be seen that the point of fracture of the first will present a marked change before that of the second exhibits any sensible variation in its appearance. We find it impossible this week to do adequate justice to M. Tissier's arguments, but we shall take an early opportunity of continuing our summary of his views and data, which can scarcely fail to interest our readers.

#### FOREIGN MINES.

**EAST DEL REY.**—W. Treloar, Sabara, Nov. 28: But few changes have taken place worthy of notice since my last. At Guy's sink we are down about 3½ ms. below the adit. We have extended a level to Barboza's sink; the lode here is about 2½ ms. wide, and the samples, on the whole, are very encouraging. We are now extending eastward on the lode, and when our 12-head stamps are in order the ore will be conveyed thither. At the Emily Mine the levels in course of driving have been pushed on vigorously day and night.—He further states that the mechanics were busily employed about the pumping-engine, that the water-wheel had been thoroughly repaired, and the shaft secured with timber to the surface, the carpenters' workshop completed, and the ground for the wheel-pit and stampa was being excavated. The timber and some of the axles were lodged on the ground, and everything tending to advance this work was attended to. Native labour continued to be abundant.

**SANTA BARBARA.**—Captain Bryant (Par., Nov. 28) states that he had forwarded to Rio de Janeiro, for shipment to this country, the two boxes of specimens referred to in last despatch, and which he hoped would arrive in time for the packet. He had also sent down 39 ozs. 1 dwt. 18 grs. (Troy) of gold to Messrs. Johnston, for transmission to England. There had been 28 tons more of stuff stamped, which yielded 8 ozs. 13 dwt. of gold, being equal to 6 dwt. 4 grs. per ton, showing a rise in the produce of 15 grs. per ton of stuff over what was stamped previously. Although there was no perceptible difference in the stone, but as the yield was better, Capt. Bryant hoped it might continue to increase, and that as the lode opened again the produce would be better. Messrs. Johnston and Sons advise that the gold forwarded by Capt. Bryant had arrived in Rio just as the steamer was leaving, and, consequently, too late to be forwarded per *Tyne*. The samples had not reached them.

**EAST KONGSBERG.**—D. T. Macdonald, Dec. 26: Sundse: I must remind you that, in consequence of the Christmas holidays, the miners only worked on Monday and Tuesday.—North Sundse: The cross-cut north at the 8 fatter level has been driven 0·57 fatter; the fettolt to east at 10½ fatter level has been driven 0·42 fatter: the two veins in this fettolt average 1 in. in width, and are separated from each other by a fathom of ground.—South Ramsrud: The fettolt to west from south cross-cut in North Ramsrud, 6½ fatters from surface, has been driven 0·81 fatters. The forebreast shows two veins; the northern is 6 in. wide.—North Ramsrud: The fettolt to west upon north vein has been driven 0·71 fatter; the vein is 2 in. wide.—Cross-cut North: We drove a bore-hole into the end of the north cross-cut, and at the distance of 7 ft. 4 in. we came upon what we think is the large vein seen in the adit.—Neus Gluck: The adit has been driven 1·1 fatter; there are only 8 ft. 10 in. now to drive before hoisting into the northern mine. The east skjorpa is ready for sinking and stopping. The main stampa this week is from the foundation of the old pakvork. The stampa were stopped on Tuesday evening on account of the holidays.

**NEW GRAND DUCHY OF BADEN.**—S. Richards, Jan. 5: The 54 north is now extended 45 ms. 2 ft. 6 in. We have been since last report, and are still, carrying 4 ft. of the same part of the lode, which continues equally promising in appearance and character, and producing about 2d. worth of ore per fm. The stopes in the back of this level are worth 4t. per fm. The stopes in the back of this level are worth 5t. per fm. In the 44 north, now extended 84 ms. 5 ft., the drivage is progressing favourably towards winze No. 4 (referred to in my last report), with 1½ ft. of the lode producing a little good work, but at present not enough to value. The stopes in the back of this level are worth 6t. per fm. The stopes in the back and bottom of this level, south of the shaft, are worth on an average 9t. per fm. In the 34 north, now extended 110 ms. 1 ft. 6 in., the lode is divided by a house of the country. We are at present carrying the eastern part, which is 1½ ft. wide, and worth 2t. per fm. The small level going south from the bottom of winze No. 4, to meet the 44 north end, is producing some saving work.

**LUSITANIAN.**—Dec. 27: Falhal Mine—Basto's Lode: At Taylor's diagonal engine-shaft, below the 70, the lode is worth 5 tons per fm. In the 60, west of Taylor's, the lode is 2 ft. wide, composed of quartz and flookan. In the 50, west of Taylor's, the lode is 3 ft. wide, composed of quartz, with a branch of one worth 1 ton per fm.

The 38 west is suspended for the present, and the men removed to drive a 38 fm. level west on a branch gone off in the direction of Basto's lode. The lode in the rise above the 28, against Perez shaft, is 8 in. wide, and poor. In the 18, west of the slide lode, the lode is small, but yielding some stones of ore. In the 8, west of Perez shaft, the lode is 1½ ft. wide, worth 2 tons per fm. In the adit level, west of Perez shaft, the lode is 1½ ft. wide, and is worth 3 tons per fm. The stopes No. 1, above the 50, where the lode is 2½ ft. wide, composed of quartz, and a branch of one worth 1½ ton per fm. The lode in Perez winze, below the adit level, and west of Perez shaft, is hoisted to the 8, and the men are put to stope above the 8, west of Francisco's winze, where the lode is worth 1 ton per fm. The ore ground in the stopes No. 1 is all worked out, and the lode is 1½ ft. wide, composed of quartz, and a branch of one worth 1½ ton per fm. The lode in Perez winze, below the adit level, and west of Perez shaft, is hoisted to the 8, and the men are put to stope above the 8, west of Francisco's winze, where the lode is worth 1 ton per fm. The stopes No. 2, above the 50, east of Joaquin's winze, is worth 2½ tons per fm. In the stopes No. 3, above the adit, west of Perez shaft, the lode is worth 1 ton per fm. In the stopes No. 4, above the 38, east of Mill lode, the lode is worth 1½ ton per fm. In the stopes No. 6, above the 60, east of River shaft, the lode is worth 3 tons per fm. In the stopes No. 7, above the 60, west of Hall's winze, the lode is worth 3 tons per fm. The lode in the stopes No. 8, above the 60, fm. level, is worth 1 ton per fm. The stopes No. 9, above the 60, fm. level, is worth 3 tons per fm. The stopes No. 16, above the 38, west of Mill lode, are worth ½ ton per fm.—Mill Lode: The lode in Barnardo's rise, above the 50, west of River shaft, is unproductive. The stopes No. 15, above the 38, between the camber and the Mill lodes, are worth ½ ton per fm. The stopes No. 11, below the 38, east of Rodengo's winze, are worth 2 tons per fm.—Great Counter Lode: In the 40, west of Oak shaft, the lode is 1 ft. wide, worth ½ ton per fm. In the 30, east of Martinez winze, the lode is 4 ft. wide, spotted with lead, but not enough to value. The rise above the 40, west of Oak shaft, is hoisted to the winze below the 30 fathom level end, and the men are put to stope above the 40, west of Martinez winze, where the lode is worth ½ ton per fm. In the stopes No. 14, above the 30, west of Martinez winze, the lode is worth ½ ton per fm. In the stopes No. 5, below the 20, east of Martinez winze, the lode is worth ½ ton per fm.—Carvalhal Mine: The lode at the incline shaft, below the 10, is 4 ft. wide, composed of quartz and lead, and of the latter worth 1½ ton per fm.

**THE MAUDLIN MINES.** have been lately inspected by Capt. Rich, of St. Blazey, who reports most favourably on the prospects. It is the unanimous opinion of all practical miners here that the adventurers will now very shortly be handsomely rewarded for their spirited perseverance in developing the ore ground below the immense gossan deposit.

**SILVER MOUNTAIN.**—In sinking the engine-shaft on this mine we have a course of silver-lead ore that I value to yield from 10 to 11 tons of ore per fm., and as this ore is worth 13t. per ton, the lode will turn out from 130t. to 140t. worth of ore per fathom; the lode is orey for 12 ft. wide, 3 ft. of which is nearly solid.

A phenomenon observed within the last few days at Varages (Var) would seem to indicate that the recent sudden changes in the weather in the south of France have been accompanied by some disturbance below the surface of the earth. A fine spring, which from time immemorial had supplied the above-named village with water, last week suddenly poured forth a stream of water entirely black and extremely caustic. This continued for three days, when the water began to clear, and is now as limpid and as sweet as ever.

#### THE MINING JOURNAL.

##### MINING NOTABILIA.

[EXTRACTS FROM OUR CORRESPONDENCE.]

**GREAT WHEAL VOR.**—Metal lode, in 1857, with only one shaft, made 20,000t. profit; there are now five shafts working, and all are this week much impeded in products.

**WHEAL LUDCOTT AND WREY CONSOLS** quarterly general meeting of shareholders was held on Thursday last, when the accounts showed a profit of 2517t. 4s., and a dividend of 12s. per share (240t.) was declared. The sales of lead ores credited amounted to 1917t. 6s. 9d., and silver-lead ores 5071t. 4s. 4d., together 6988t. 1s. 1d. About 780t. worth of lead ores had been sold, but not credited, in this account, otherwise the profit named would have been so much more; and in addition to this there was charged 200t. 11s. for a new boiler. As will be seen from the agent's report, inserted in another column, the mine is in a very satisfactory state, with good expectations of meeting with important discoveries of both silver and lead ores during the next three months. The balance-sheet of Ludcott showed lead and silver ores sold from this mine alone to be 76,155t. 6s. 9d. The meeting was highly satisfactory, and the shareholders present were well pleased with their present position and future excellent prospects.

**NORTH ROSKEAR.**—I cannot allow your valuable Journal to appear again without making a few remarks upon the extraordinary statements put forth as to the value and prospects of this mine. I have the statement of accounts presented at the last general meeting now before me, and can come to no other conclusion than that the mine is heavily in debt.

LIABILITIES to Sept. 1862—Bankers .....	£ 953 15 5
Merchants .....	1875 18 2
Lord's dues, &c. .....	384 11 4 = £3314 4 11
ASSETS.—Calls unpaid .....	£ 54 0 0
Sundries .....	2 1 11
Arsenic .....	45 8 6 = 101 10 5

Leaving debit balance .....	£3212 14 6
Deduct call made Nov. 11 .....	700 0 0

Leaving .....	£3212 14 6
Probable loss on the two last months' working .....	700 0 0

Total liabilities .....	£3212 14 6
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To cover this deficit I consider that a call of at least 5s. per share should be made at the meeting on Tuesday next. Moreover, I am credibly advised by mining agents of great respectability that, whatever may be the future condition of this mine, a further considerable outlay will have to be made in the purchase of machinery; so that before dividends can be expected calls will have to be made to place the mine in a fair working condition.—*ANOTHER CAUTIOUS MAN.*

**EAST WHEEL FORTUNE** is looking well, and promising soon to become a first-class property.

**GREAT TWARNHAILE** is to be worked on the Cost-book System, the company having the Earl of Shrewsbury as Chairman, and such men as General Hay on the committee, and no doubt good results will be obtained. A large sum has been expended in erecting machinery, and there is now on the mine an excellent plant, consisting of two 70-in. pumping-engines, with large pitwork, two new whm-engines, one engine for stamping and crushing, and a sufficient plant for working the mine effectively. The samplings will much increase in quantity and quality, as a good discovery has been made in the 90 fm. level.

**EAST WHEEL NEPTUNE.**—The driving of the deep adit level is being pushed on with all speed, and are long a first-class lode may be reached.

**TRUMPET UNITED MINES.**—Shares have been in good demand all the week, upon an improvement in the bottom, or 38 fm. level. The 15 has been driven several fathoms, upon a lode worth 10t. per fm. for tin, and the 25 and 38 fm. levels are 1½ fm. only behind this run of ground; in the latter level the lode is now worth 5t. per fathom, and improving, while the lode in the shaft (which is now down to the 45) presents every indication of a rich deposit of tin being not far distant. The mine is in 4000 shares, which at 8s. each, their present price, is 1600t. only for the mine. There is ample machinery, and the mine is at present being worked at a monthly loss of about 100t., and as soon as the 38 and 25 fm. levels are driven under the ore ground in the 15 it is expected the returns will fully meet the costs.

**BUCKFASTLEIGH.**—At East Brookwood a new lode has just been intersected, producing very fine specimens of copper ore. There are now about 3 ms. to drive the cross-cut to reach the main lode, which the adit level has been driven on.

**WHEEL SETON.**—The sump-winze on north caunter lode, in bottom of the 140, is down 5 ms., and will produce 25 tons of rich ore per fathom; the winze opposite Tilly's shaft 10 tons; the winze in the bottom of the 140, on Pridgeon's lode, 8 tons; the winze in the bottom of the 110, 10 tons. The lodes will be seen at the 150 in about three months.

**EAST BASSET.**—The tin lode has much improved, and the returns from this quarter will increase. There is no improvement to notice in the copper department.

**GREAT SOUTH TOLGS.**—The water is again drained from the bottom of Lyle's shaft; they are sinking on an excellent course of tin, and no doubt it will prove, as many of the best mines in this district, a good and lasting mine for tin beneath the courses of copper ore.

**WHEEL RETH** is again attracting much attention in Cornwall. The 180, west from Frederick shaft, is worth 45t. per fm. From the present prospects the mine is likely to figure in the Dividend List for the present year.

**EAST RUSSELL.**—Improved in the 120 and other levels, and the mine, on the whole, looks very promising. There have again been sampled 238 tons of good quality copper ore, the produce of November and December.

**ST. IVES WHEEL ALLEN** continues to look very promising.

**WEST PAR.**—The lode in the 30 fm. level east has much improved.

**DEVON AND CORNWALL** is looking extremely well. Large quantities of ore are at present being sold, and there is every prospect of the sales increasing. No adventurers could be more deserving of success; they have spent a large amount in mines, and although they have not yet had any great success, they appear now to be on the eve of prosperity. The managing agents—Capts. Neill and Horswill, and the secretary, Mr. G. Down, have performed their duties well, and this, with the unanimity of the adventurers, is now crowned with success.

**HINGSTON DOWN** has much improved, and is likely to be a trump in 1863. Had it not been for sinking the new shaft, the company's financial position would have been much better, but this shaft, when completed, will be a great thing for the mine. At present the ground is easier, and opening out well. They have sampled nearly 400 tons, which will leave a profit, and no doubt future samplings will be larger.

**WEST BEAM.**—The discovery in the bottom of this mine inspires the utmost confidence; it reassures the desponding, and places the future well-being of the mine beyond doubt. The results under the present management have been eminently satisfactory, as it was generally supposed and believed the mine was worked out, and that attempting to find it, was "scrapping an egg-shell;"—10 tons of per month proves otherwise.

**SMITH'S WOOD MINE** still continues its lately-cut branch of rich copper ore; the specimens forwarded to the offices in Manchester have given great pleasure to the shareholders who have seen them, and not without cause.

**THE CARADON DISTRICT.**—Among the mines in this celebrated district there is not one deserving so much attention, at present price of shares, as Great Caradon, in 4000 shares, 2l. called up. It's down east of, and only 600 fathoms from

## Bristol Mining School.

**B R I S T O L M I N I N G S C H O O L.**  
(ESTABLISHED 1852).  
The NEXT SESSION COMMENCES on MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 1863.  
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HANDEL COSSHAM, Esq., F.G.S., Shortwood Lodge, near Bristol.  
VICE-PRESIDENTS.  
LIONEL BROUGH, Esq., F.G.S., Her Majesty's Inspector of Mines, Clifton.  
GEORGE C. GREENWELL, Esq., F.G.S., Radstock.

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PHYSICAL SCIENCES	
PRACTICAL, PLANE, AND DESCRIPTIVE GEOMETRY	Mr. WILLIAM ROWDEN.
MACHINE DRAWING	
MECHANISM	
GEOLGY AND MINERALOGY	Mr. HUGH FULTON.
NATURAL HISTORY	
MINING ENGINEERING	
SURVEYING	
LEVELLING	
DIALLING	
PLOTTING AND PRACTICAL MINING	M. GILDROY STEWART, Civil and Mining Engineer.

The pupils accompany Mr. Stewart in weekly visits to the numerous mines in the neighbourhood, for the purpose of studying practical mine engineering and dialling. Mr. Stewart also teaches surveying and levelling in the field. Geological excursions are made under the guidance of Mr. Fulton, the neighbourhood being a highly interesting one, regarded in connection with that subject.

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ROBERT HUNT, Esq., F.R.S., F.S.S., Keeper of Mining Records.

WALRINGTON W. SMITH, Esq., M.A., F.R.S., Professor of Mining and Mineralogy in the Royal School of Mines.

DIRECTOR.  
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CHEMISTRY, METALLURGY, AND GEOLOGY—JAMES ALLEN, Ph.D., F.C.S. of the Universities of Giessen and Berlin.

ENGINEERING AND MINING—J. THOMPSON, C.E.

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**G E O L O G Y — K I N G ' S C O L L E G E , L O N D O N .**  
PROF. TENNANT, F.G.S., will COMMENCE A COURSE OF LECTURES on GEOLOGY on FRIDAY MORNING, January 25, at Nine o'clock. They will be continued on each succeeding Wednesday and Friday, at the same hour. Fee, £3 12s. 6d.

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## In the Court of the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries.

Stannaries of Cornwall.

**I N t h e M A T T E R o f t h e C O M P A N I E S A C T , 1862 , a n d o f t h e W H E A L S I C I L Y M I N I N G C O M P A N Y .**—By an order made by his Honour the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries in the above matter, dated the 31st day of December last, on the petition of Edward Cooke, a creditor of the said company, it was ordered that the said Wheal Sicily Mining Company should be WOUND-UP by this Court, under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1862.

HODGE, HOCKIN, AND MARRACK, of Truro, Cornwall.

(Solicitors for the said Petitioner).

Dated this 2d day of January, 1863.

## In the Court of the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries.

Stannaries of Cornwall.

**I N t h e M A T T E R o f t h e C O M P A N I E S A C T , 1862 , a n d o f t h e W H E A L N E L S O N M I N I N G C O M P A N Y .**—By an order made by his Honour the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries in the above matter, dated the 31st day of December last, on the petition of William Northen, of No. 14, Vauxhall-wall, Lambeth, in the county of Surrey, a contributor of the said company, it was ordered that the said Wheal Nelson Mining Company be WOUND-UP by this Court, under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1862.

HODGE, HOCKIN, AND MARRACK, of Truro, Cornwall.

(Solicitors for the said Petitioner).

Dated this 2d day of January, 1863.

## In the Court of the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries.

Stannaries of Cornwall.

**I N t h e M A T T E R o f t h e C O M P A N I E S A C T , 1862 , a n d o f t h e B U D N I C K C O N S O L S M I N I N G C O M P A N Y .**—By an order made by his Honour the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries in the above matter, dated the 31st day of December last, on the petition of George Houghton Arnal and Thomas Hamilton, both of the borough of Truro, and the Stannaries, contributors of the said company, it was ordered that the said Budnick Consols Mining Company should be WOUND-UP by this Court, under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1862.

And the Vice-Warden thereby appointed William Polkinghorne, of Par, in the county of Cornwall, official liquidator of the above-named company, until the further order of the said Court.

HODGE, HOCKIN, AND MARRACK, of Truro, Cornwall.

(Solicitors for the said Petitioner).

Dated this 2d day of January, 1863.

## In the Court of the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries.

Stannaries of Cornwall.

**I N t h e M A T T E R o f t h e C O M P A N I E S A C T , 1862 , a n d o f t h e B U D N I C K C O N S O L S M I N I N G C O M P A N Y .**—By an order made by his Honour the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries in the above matter, dated the 31st day of December last, on the petition of George Houghton Arnal and Thomas Hamilton, both of the borough of Truro, and the Stannaries, contributors of the said company, it was ordered that the said Budnick Consols Mining Company should be WOUND-UP by this Court, under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1862.

And the Vice-Warden thereby appointed William Polkinghorne, of Par, in the county of Cornwall, official liquidator of the above-named company, until the further order of the said Court.

HODGE, HOCKIN, AND MARRACK, of Truro, Cornwall.

(Solicitors for the said Petitioner).

Dated this 2d day of January, 1863.

## In the Court of the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries.

Stannaries of Devon.

**I N t h e M A T T E R o f t h e C O M P A N I E S A C T , 1862 , a n d o f t h e T R E O T O I L A N D M I N I N G C O M P A N Y .**—By an order made by his Honour the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries in the above matter, dated the 31st day of December last, on the petition of John Sommerville, of Treotail, Bodmin, in the county of Cornwall, a contributor of the said company, it was ordered that the said Treotail Oil Land Mining Company should be WOUND-UP by this Court, under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1862.

And the Vice-Warden thereby appointed John Gilbert Chilcott, of Tavistock.

Dated Registrar's Office, Truro, January 7th, 1863.

## In Chancery.

Stannaries of Devon.

**I N t h e M A T T E R o f t h e J O I N T - S T O C K C O M P A N I E S W I N D I N G - U P A C T S , 1848**  
and 1849, and of the TRETOIL AND MESMER MINING COMPANY.

M. R. E. H. LIDDELL, Auctioneer, has received instructions from

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10 (600ths) SHARES of the defendant John Hoskin.

5 (600ths

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3400 Boscoan (tin), St. Just	20 10 0 ..	—	—	.. 26 10 0 .. 1 0 0 — Jan.	1862	
2000 Botallack (tin, copper), St. Just	91 1 ..	—	—	.. 455 18 0 .. 1 0 0 — Nov.	1862	
910 Carrigoll (silver-lead), Newlyn	15 5 7 ..	42	41 43	.. 1 0 0 .. 1 0 0 — Nov.	1862	
1000 Corn Barn (copper, tin), Illogan	15 0 0 ..	—	—	.. 60 65 .. 273 10 0 .. 2 0 0 — Feb.	1862	
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512 Creagorla and Penkevill, St. Columb	— ..	—	—	.. 0 10 0 .. 0 10 0 — Jan.	1862	
867 Cwm Erin (lead), Cardiganshire [L.]	7 10 0 ..	—	—	.. 7 18 0 .. 0 5 0 — July.	1862	
128 Cwmystwyth (lead), Cardiganshire [L.]	60 0 0 ..	—	—	.. 247 10 0 .. 4 0 0 — Sept.	1862	
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4000 Foxdale (lead) Isle of Man [L.]	23 0 0 ..	—	—	.. — — — — — July.	1862	
4000 Frank Mills (lead), Devon	3 18 6 ..	—	—	.. 0 18 0 .. 0 2 0 — Mar.	1862	
1782 Great Wheal Fortune (tin), Breage	18 6 0 ..	31	31 33	.. 3 0 0 .. 0 10 0 — Oct.	1862	
6900 Great Wh. (tin, op.), Helston [S.E.]	40 0 0 ..	—	—	.. 2 2 6 .. 0 5 0 — Sept.	1862	
10240 Gunnis Lake (Olliters' Adit), —	0 2 0 ..	—	—	.. 0 3 0 .. 0 1 6 — Mar.	1862	
10240 Herdsfoot (ld.), near Liskeard [S.E.]	8 10 0 ..	51	48 50 ..	.. 21 10 0 .. 1 15 0 — Oct.	1862	
1000 Hibernian Mine Company	92 6 ..	—	—	.. 9 0 0 .. 0 15 0 — Sept.	1862	
4000 Isbister (lead), Cardiganshire, Wales [L.]	18 10 0 ..	—	—	.. 899 10 0 .. 4 0 0 — Nov.	1862	
9000 Marke Valley (copper), Caradon	4 10 6 ..	8%	8% 8%	.. 2 6 0 .. 0 2 0 — Jan.	1862	
15000 Minera Mining Co. [L.] (Id.), Wrexham	25 0 ..	—	—	.. 99 18 0 .. 7 0 0 — Nov.	1862	
640 Mount Pleasant (lead), Mold	4 0 0 ..	—	—	.. 18 18 1 .. 0 7 6 — Aug.	1862	
5396 North Trebether (copper), St. Agnes	1 9 0 ..	4%	4% 4%	.. 0 3 0 .. 0 1 6 — Dec.	1862	
8000 Orsedd (lead), Flintshire	0 8 0 ..	—	—	.. 0 10 4 .. 0 8 0 — Mar.	1862	
640 Par Consols (cop.), St. Blazey [S.E.]	1 2 6 ..	—	—	.. 26 16 6 .. 0 7 0 — Nov.	1862	
202 Parys Mines (copper), Anglesey [L.]	50 0 0 ..	—	—	.. 47 10 0 .. 10 0 0 — Oct.	1862	
400 Phoenix (copper and tin)	— ..	—	—	.. — — — — — Sept.	1862	
1122 Providence (tin), Uny Lelant [S.E.]	10 6 7 ..	42	41 42 ..	.. 66 5 0 .. 1 5 0 — Nov.	1862	
6000 Rosewall Hill and Bansom United	2 12 0 ..	—	—	.. 8% 2% .. 0 8 6 .. 0 2 0 — Sept.	1862	
4022 Rosewarne Consols (copper)	3 7 6 ..	—	—	.. 0 2 0 .. 0 2 0 — Oct.	1862	
14 Rhosemar (lead)	50 0 ..	—	—	.. 1250 0 0 .. 100 0 0 — Quarterly		
512 South Cardon (cop.), St. Cleer [S.E.]	1 5 0 ..	385 ..	390 400 ..	.. 291 0 .. 5 0 0 — Nov.	1862	
512 South Folgo (cop.), Redruth, Cornwall [S.E.]	8 0 0 ..	45 ..	45 47%	.. 73 10 0 .. 1 0 0 — May.	1862	
5000 South Exmouth (lead), Christow	1 0 0 ..	5%	5% 5%	.. 12 0 0 .. 0 5 0 0 — Dec.	1862	
494 S. Wh. Francis (cop.), Illogan [S.E.]	18 19 0 ..	97%	96 95 ..	.. 365 5 0 .. 1 0 0 — Jan.	1862	
500 South Woodley	— ..	—	—	.. — — — — — June.	1862	
380 Speare Moor (tin, copper), St. Just	31 17 9 ..	—	—	.. 9 15 0 .. 1 0 0 — June.	1862	
940 St. Ives Consols (tin), St. Ives [S.E.]	8 0 0 ..	13%	13% 14	.. 11 18 6 .. 0 8 0 — Dec.	1862	
5000 Tincroft (cop.), Pool, Illogan [S.E.]	9 0 0 ..	13%	13% 14	.. 485 10 0 .. 10 0 0 — Aug.	1862	
7000 Trumpet Consols (tin), near Helston	11 10 0 ..	—	—	.. 11 18 6 .. 0 8 0 — Dec.	1862	
4200 Vigras and Clogau (copper) [L.]	2 15 0 ..	33 ..	30 32 ..	.. 41 12 6 .. 1 0 0 — Oct.	1862	
6000 West Bassett (copper), Illogan [S.E.]	1 10 0 ..	—	—	.. 23 6 0 .. 0 0 — Sept.	1862	
1024 West Cardon (cop.), Liskeard [S.E.]	5 0 0 ..	27 ..	28% 30 ..	.. 101 1 3 .. 0 10 0 — Oct.	1862	
6400 West Fowey Consols (tin and copper)	7 10 0 ..	—	—	.. 0 19 0 .. 0 3 0 — May.	1862	
1024 West Penstrithul	4 0 0 ..	—	—	.. 2 19 6 .. 2 19 6 — May.	1862	
412 W. Wh. Seton (cop.), Illogan [S.E.]	47 10 0 ..	290 ..	285 295 ..	.. 368 0 .. 5 0 0 — Dec.	1862	
512 Wheat Bassett (copper), Illogan [S.E.]	5 2 6 ..	80 ..	— ..	.. 591 10 0 .. 2 0 0 — Dec.	1862	
1000 Wheat Bassett and Grylls (tin)	7 0 0 ..	18 ..	— ..	.. — — — — — Dec.	1862	
2900 Wh. Clifford Amalgamated (cop.), Gwen. 30 0 ..	20 ..	— ..	— ..	.. 28 6 0 .. 0 7 6 — Dec.	1862	
1024 Wheal Grylls (tin), Perranporth	2 4 0 ..	33 ..	31 33 ..	.. 2 2 0 .. 0 10 0 — Sept.	1862	
1024 Wheal Heartie (tin), St. Just	9 13 8 ..	—	—	.. 5 0 0 .. 0 5 0 — May.	1862	
4900 Wh. Ludicot and Wrey (lead), St. Ives	2 10 8 ..	10 ..	9 9 5% ..	.. 3 2 0 .. 1 0 0 — Dec.	1862	
896 Wh. Margaret (tin), Uny Lelant [S.E.]	9 17 6 ..	42 ..	41 42 ..	.. 75 5 0 .. 1 0 0 — Nov.	1862	
100 Wh. Mary (tin), Lelant	3 2 6 ..	—	—	.. 284 5 0 .. 4 0 0 — Mar.	1862	
1024 Wh. Mary Ann (Id.), Menheniot [S.E.]	8 0 0 ..	16 ..	15 16 ..	.. 55 17 6 .. 0 10 0 — Dec.	1862	
80 Wh. Owles (tin), St. Just, Cornwall	70 0 ..	—	—	.. 310 18 0 .. 7 10 0 — Nov.	1862	
128 Wh. Prosper (tin), Lanivet	3 0 0 ..	—	—	.. 4 10 0 .. 0 — June.	1862	
396 Wh. Seton (tin, copper), Camborne	58 10 0 ..	230 ..	235 245 ..	.. 144 15 0 .. 3 0 0 — Dec.	1862	
1040 Wh. Trelawny (sil.-ld.), Liskeard [S.E.]	5 17 0 ..	—	—	.. 17% 18% .. 46 2 6 .. 0 10 0 — Nov.	1862	

(\* Dividends paid every two months. † Dividends paid every three months.)

## MINES WITH DIVIDENDS IN ABEYANCE.

Shares.	Mines.	Paid.	Last Pr.	Business.	Dividends Per Share.	Last Paid.
700 Aberdovey (silver-lead), Merioneth	1 10 0 ..	—	—	.. 0 10 0 .. 0 10 0 — Mar.	1859	
493 Altred Consols (cop.), Philicia [S.E.]	3 15 11 ..	—	—	.. 20 3 0 .. 1 2 6 — April.	1859	
200 Cefn Bryn (lead), Cardiganshire	33 0 ..	—	—	.. 9 0 0 .. 4 0 0 — April.	1861	
236 Condurrow (cop., tin), Camborne	35 0 0 ..	—	—	.. 85 0 0 .. 2 0 0 — June.	1857	
2450 Cook's Kitchen (copper), Illogan	17 0 9 ..	33 ..	52 38 ..	.. 1 7 0 .. 0 7 0 — May.	1862	
478 Devon and Cornwall (copper)	5 16 3 ..	—	—	.. 0 10 0 .. 0 2 6 — Feb.	1862	
672 Ding Dong (tin), Galval	40 13 6 ..	—	—	.. 16 7 6 .. 1 10 0 — Mar.	1862	
12000 Drake Walls (tin, copper), Calstock	2 1 0 ..	—	—	.. 0 15 0 .. 0 1 0 — June.	1862	
4940 Fowey Consols (copper), Tywardreath	4 0 0 ..	—	—	.. 41 9 5 .. 0 2 6 — June.	1860	
6000 Great South Tolgus (S.E.), Redruth	0 14 6 ..	7% 7%	7% 7%	.. 22 10 0 .. 7 10 0 — Feb.	1862	
119 Great Work (tin), Germoe	100 0 ..	—	—	.. 22 10 0 .. 7 10 0 — Feb.	1862	
5000 Kelly Bray (lead), Callington	4 15 6 ..	7% ..	7% ..	.. 22 10 0 .. 7 10 0 — Feb.	1862	